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Peres, Rabin and Arens meet Murphy U.S., Israel downplay contacts on Lebanon

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent
American and Israeli officials both voiced caution yesterday in regard to initial Israeli-Syrian indirect contacts over South Lebanon.
U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, after meeting with Prime Minister Peres, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens yesterday morning, said his visits this week to Damascus and Jerusalem were "no more than a mission of exploration."
Other U.S. sources said that if a mediation were launched, it would be a long and arduous one.
Observers were encouraged by the fact that Murphy, who flew to Cairo yesterday, reportedly intends to return to Damascus shortly. This seemed to signify that despite Washington's reluctance to dub Murphy's efforts a mediation, there is enough momentum to indicate (Continued on Page 11)



U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy (far right) yesterday meets Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left), Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Foreign Ministry director-general David Kimche. (Dan Landau)

Peres, Shamir in accord on rejection of Reagan plan

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent
After a day of transatlantic briefing, Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir reached agreement last night on two self-evident truths: that the national unity government has not discussed or adopted any position on the Reagan Plan for the Middle East, and that therefore the previous government's rejection of that plan remains Israel's formal policy.
The agreement represented a certain climb-down by the Shamir camp from an earlier statement delivered by spokesman Avi Pazner in New York that strongly implied that with the creation of the new government, Israel continues to actively reject the Reagan plan.
Pazner's statement had provoked a tart rejoinder from the Prime Minister's Office. Cabinet Secretary Yosef Beilin promptly pointed out that "contrary to the impression that may be produced (by Pazner's statement), there has been no discussion and thereby no decision by the unity cabinet... If there are proposals and President Reagan asks us (Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Murphy arrives in Cairo for more talks

CAIRO (AP). — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy arrived yesterday for exploratory talks with Egyptian leaders on a possible new American diplomatic effort for Middle East peace.
Murphy drove directly from Cairo Airport to the presidential residence where he conferred with President Hosni Mubarak.
The envoy was to have talks later in the day with Mubarak's top political aide, Osama Al-Baz and is scheduled to depart today to continue his area tour.
In Damascus, meanwhile, Syrian President Hafez Assad yesterday received a message on the situation in Lebanon from Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, the official Syrian news agency Sana reported.
It gave no details of the message, brought by Gemayel's adviser, Michael Samaha, and military intelligence chief Colonel Simon Qassis.
But informed sources said the message contained a brief report on Gemayel's recent talks with Murphy.

Watchmaker wins IS150m. Lotto jackpot

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Zvi Cohen, a 73-year-old watchmaker from Hadera, yesterday was identified as the sole winner of the nearly IS150 million

Lotto jackpot (worth some \$374,000 at yesterday's exchange rate), the drawing for which was held on Monday.
Cohen arrived at Mifal Hapayis headquarters here at noon yesterday.
Cohen said his life will not be changed by the windfall — and in any case, he has not decided what to do with the money.
Cohen plays Lotto regularly. This week he had filled out three tickets, one regular and two of the more expensive "systematic" coupons.
His first prize was from one of the systematic coupons. On the same ticket he also won shares of the much smaller second, third and fourth prizes, and had some minor winnings on the other systematic ticket as well. His regular coupon did not bring any prize money.
With his shares of the smaller prizes, Cohen's take will go over the IS150 million mark.
Cohen is married and has children and grandchildren.

'We shall overcome' Peres tells 'The Post'

Jerusalem Post Staff
Prime Minister Shimon Peres yesterday predicted a very tough new year, but said he was certain "that we will emerge much stronger, both economically and politically."
In a Rosh Hashana message to the nation issued in the course of a Jerusalem Post interview, Peres appealed to all Israeli citizens not to just rely on the government: "There is ample room for voluntary efforts," he said.
"People can help the nation by increasing their savings efforts. They can stop buying luxury goods and above all buy only made-in-Israel products. These are things we can all do."
"Our economy," the premier went on, "is in a feverish condition, and it isn't enough to call the physician: the patient must help in order to ensure a cure."
Peres said he felt the Likud government mismanaged the sphere of economics. "In my view, the entire government should become the finance minister and give its fullest backing to economic measures. Otherwise, we won't succeed."
Regarding Lebanon, Peres hoped the war would be over before the end of the year and that Israeli soldiers would finally be able to come home.
Text of interview — Page 5

Shamir asks for meeting with Gromyko at UN session

By WALTER RUBY
Jerusalem Post Correspondent
NEW YORK. — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said yesterday he has requested a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko during the time that both men will be in New York for the opening session of the UN General Assembly.
Shamir also said that he has requested meetings with the foreign ministers of other East Bloc countries such as Poland and Hungary.
Speaking with Israeli journalists, Shamir said he believed that the meetings he has requested with Gromyko and the others "will possibly take place." Asked why he thought so, Shamir said: "We have not received any negative answers yet to our requests."
Shamir expressed satisfaction with the results of meetings yesterday morning with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Mora. Shamir characterized his discussion with Cheysson as part of the "permanent dialogue between Israel and France" and said he believes that "bilateral relations are progres-

sing." Shamir said he and Cheysson also discussed President Francois Mitterrand's coming trip to Damascus, but did not say what points had been touched upon.
Shamir said he discussed with Mora when Spain intends to recognize Israel. He said he noted to Mora that Spain intends to join the European Common Market, and that all the Common Market nations have diplomatic relations with Israel. Shamir said that Mora assured him that such Spanish recognition will come, but he said he was not authorized to say when.
Asked whether he was worried by President Reagan's renewed commitment to the "Reagan Plan", Shamir noted that Reagan had never abandoned it, so his mention of it Monday in a UN address "does not represent a new element."
Asked whether in light of statements by Prime Minister Peres that the Reagan Plan has "positive elements" the new Israeli government could be said to be as opposed to the U.S. plan as the Likud government was, Shamir said only: "This issue (Continued on Page 11)

Nation in subdued mood as year 5745 arrives

Jerusalem Post Staff and Agencies
The heat wave is to continue throughout the long holiday weekend, adding to the discomfort of Israelis already buffeted by the government's latest austerity measures. But like their co-religionists throughout the world, Jews here will assemble in synagogues and gather with their families around the table tonight to welcome in the 5745 New Year.
Local holiday meals are likely to be somewhat more modest than usual, and many Israelis will make do with last year's festive finery. But the thought that the old year of 5744, whose Hebrew acronym Tashmud comes from a root meaning destruction, has passed without disaster will no doubt add some cheer to the Rosh Hashana observance.
As usual, worshippers are expected to fill and overflow the more than 8,000 synagogues and temporary houses of worship around the country. Special Rosh Hashana services are being arranged at Israel Defence Forces bases and absorption centres.
Because the holy day ends on Friday, at sunset, observant Jews will have to perform the rite of *eruv tavshilin*, according to which some bread and cooked food are set aside before the holiday for Shabbat, enabling the person performing the ceremony to continue cooking for Shabbat during the holiday.
The three-day weekend has also provided many with the opportunity to leave home for a few days, although hotels report that fewer Israelis than usual have booked rooms this year. Their place, however, is being taken by a larger than usual number of foreign visitors for the season.
El Al reports a record number of passengers arriving from North America. The airline has also put on extra flights to accommodate those arriving from Europe.
Haifa port's passenger service will be busy on both days of Rosh Hashana, dealing with nearly 1,500 tourists who are due to arrive in two ships on Mediterranean cruises.
Tomorrow morning, the Greek (Continued on Page 11)

New levies decreed to save gov't \$1b.

Fees for schooling, 'extra' pensions to be taxed, incomes levy cancelled, charge for visits to doctors discussed as cabinet team reaches budget slash target.

By AVI TEMKIN
Jerusalem Post Reporter
A fee for education is to be imposed on parents, taxes are to be levied on the child allowance for the third child in the family, a fee is apparently to be charged for visits to the doctor, and old-age pensions for people with relatively high income from other sources will be taxed.
These decisions were taken yesterday by a special team composed of Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Economics Planning Minister Gad Ya'acobi and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i after lengthy negotiations with Education and Culture Minister Yitzhak Navon and Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katav.
The compromise reached with the ministers permitted Moda'i to announce that he had reached his target of cutting the budget by

almost \$1 billion in annual terms, including a slash of \$300 million in subsidies for basic commodities.
The slash includes some \$75m. to be cut from the National Insurance Institute budget through the implementation of three main measures:
□ Collection of NII fees will be unified with income tax collection.
□ Families with three children, whose main breadwinner is in the 45 per cent tax bracket or over, will have to pay income tax on the allowance for the third child.
□ Elderly persons with an additional income that is 10 per cent or more higher than the average wage in the economy, will have to pay tax on their old-age pensions.
As for the education budget, it was decided to impose an education fee. Details on university tuition fees were still being worked out.
It was also decided to introduce

various economy measures in the education budget. Children will have to clean their schools by themselves and there will be a reduction in transportation services for pupils.
Moda'i said after the meeting that although he had no final details on the subject, it seemed that there would be fees imposed for visiting the doctor.
He also said that the Treasury will make sure that all the ministries in fact implement the cuts. He hinted that after this barrage of measures, there would be a cooling off period of some weeks. After this, the cabinet will discuss priorities in next year's budget.
He added that the decision to impose a 10 per cent surtax on incomes was not final, and that although he had the Histadrut's agreement he was not in a hurry to (Continued on Back Page)

5 IDF soldiers die in helicopter crash

By HIRSH GOODMAN
and MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporters
The Air Force commission of inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the crash of a Bell-212 helicopter on Monday, killing five soldiers and injuring five others, is expected to submit its findings soon.
It has been established almost beyond doubt that one of the helicopter's two engines failed while it was flying through a narrow ravine that afforded no immediate landing site. What is still being checked by the commission is whether the pilot made the right decision in attempting to turn the helicopter around — a maneuver that requires a significant power thrust — and fly east toward a landing spot.
While executing this turn the helicopter apparently hit the wall of the ravine, and crashed.

The Bell-212 helicopter was taking part in an exercise to coordinate airborne and ground troops. Two of the men killed were from the Golani Infantry brigade, which participated in the exercise. The other three dead were the pilot, the co-pilot and the flight engineer.
Four of the dead are: Private Meir Assiag, 21, of Dimona; Private Ya'acov Bechar, 18, of Tel Aviv; Lieutenant Avner Efrati, 22, of Rosh Ha'ayin; Captain Ilan Yitzhak, 22, of Haifa. The name of the fifth fatality has not yet been released, although his family has been notified.
The five soldiers hurt were taken to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem for treatment.
The commission yesterday visited the scene of the incident near Moshav Mehola in the Beit She'an Valley.

Eli Sharir, of Kibbutz Ma'ale Gilboa, said yesterday: "I saw a helicopter exercise taking place in Nahal Bezek. I saw one helicopter enter the wadi and suddenly disappear. Soon after, IDF officers came to me asking for heavy equipment to extricate the wounded."
Members of the kibbutz also helped the inquiry commission to search for wreckage, which will be studied.
Close to the crash site yesterday, a helmet, battle rations, a first-aid kit, and cartridge belts could be seen strewn over the ground.
Two soldiers in a command car guarded the wreckage.
"I got to the scene and saw a helicopter torn in two and in it many dead and injured. Soldiers were (Continued on Page 11)

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FRANKFURT	16	21	69	28
GENEVA	16	21	69	28
LONDON	16	21	69	28
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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Min-Max
Jerusalem	23	16-30	30
Golan	28	18-30	30
Nahariya	41	20-28	29
Safed	41	24-28	29
Haifa Port	67	20-26	36
Thiberias	19	20-26	36
Nazareth	—	19-31	31
Afula	33	20-33	33
Sharon	37	18-30	30
Tel Aviv	57	22-28	29
B-G Airport	52	20-30	30
Jericho	40	24-37	37
Gaza	70	21-28	28
Beersheba	39	18-32	32
Eilat	20	26-38	39

Jerusalem Post Subscription Rates

September 26, 1984

3 months	IS 21,060
6 months	IS 39,740
12 months	IS 75,500

Prices include VAT and home delivery. The Jerusalem Post is published daily except on Sundays and public holidays. The subscription will be absorbed by The Jerusalem Post.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Technion President, Professor Josef Singer has been elected President of the International Council for Aeronautical Sciences, for a second two-year term.

Fink's Restaurant will be closed for the holidays, from September 26 to October 19, 1984.

Reagan sends holiday greetings

WASHINGTON (AP). — President Ronald Reagan extended his best Rosh Hashana wishes to American Jews yesterday.

"The ties between the Jewish and American traditions run deep and are related in no small way to the special relationship that exists between the United States and Israel," said the president in a brief written statement.

"At this time of introspection and renewal, we extend our very best wishes that your prayers will be fulfilled," Reagan said. "We share your hopes that during the coming year world understanding and peace will triumph over prejudice and violence."

TALK ON THE MIRACLE OF MODERN ISRAEL

(Bible Prophecy Viewpoint Non-Political)

By the Irish Writer and Author JAMES MC WHIRTER

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HOME NEWS

Second bomb attempt averted in Jerusalem

By ROBERT ROSENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A 21-year-old Arab prevented a major explosion yesterday when he informed his employer at midday of a powerful homemade bomb in the underground car park of a Jerusalem apartment building. It was the second bombing attempt in the capital in two days.

The Arab — whose name has been withheld from publication for his safety — discovered the two-kilogram bomb when he was cleaning the garbage area in the garage in the Wolfson Towers opposite Sacher Park.

According to police sources, the bomb was of similar manufacture and design to another bomb recently discovered in the capital.

Sappers set in action the yellow six-wheeled robot that has replaced the tank-treaded anti-bomb device in use here for the last five years.

Speedier and more maneuverable than the old robot, the yellow machine was brought up to the bomb, and using remote controls the

sappers neutralized it. The discovery of the bomb confirmed suspicions about terror operations planned for the capital during the holiday season, police sources said.

"If the bomb had gone off," said a sapper on the scene yesterday, "it might have brought down part of the eight-storey building, especially if some nearby parked cars also blew up in the explosion."

Jerusalem Police commander Haim Elbados yesterday reissued his request to the public to be alert for suspicious objects.

Coming a little more than 24 hours after a bomb was discovered in a Ramat Eshkol supermarket, yesterday's bombing attempt is expected to cause a surge in the number of calls to the 100 police emergency number. But the police are not dismayed by that.

"I don't care how many false alarms I have to answer," said the commander of the Jerusalem squad. "I'd rather answer false alarms than go around picking up the pieces after one of these things goes off."

Traffic deaths increase slightly in 5744

Jerusalem Post Staff

There was a slight drop in the number of traffic accidents and casualties during 5744, the Jewish year ending today, from last year's figure. But the number of traffic deaths rose slightly.

Moshe Amirav, director of the Road Safety Authority reported yesterday.

In 5744, 19,256 people were hurt in traffic accidents in the country, compared to 19,555 in 5743. But the number of deaths rose from 413 in

5743 to 423 in the year ending today.

There were 13,325 traffic accidents in 5744, compared to 13,460 the year before.

Amirav noted that the number of vehicles in the country rose 11 per cent in 5744 to a total of about 780,000. Efforts to prevent road accidents in the year ending, he said, included the setting up of a national traffic police and the institution of summary courts for traffic offences.

New tax on cars linked to size and model

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Treasury yesterday published a table giving the proposed property tax on passenger cars. The figures are given in dollars, although payment will be made in shekels, adjusted to the dollar rate at the time of payment. The tax is still subject to the approval of the Ministerial Economic Committee.

A car with an engine of up to 1,000cc. will be subject to a tax of \$175 if it is this year's model. The rate declines to \$80 for a five-year-old car and to \$29 if the car is of 1973 vintage or older.

For the popular 1,001cc. to 1,300cc. engine group the rate is \$214 for the current model. This goes down to \$91 for the 1980 model

and \$36 for 1973 and older.

The next engine-size group, 1,301cc. to 1,750cc., will cost \$362 for the latest model, going down to \$154 for 1980 and \$45 for the 1973 model.

The top payment for the 1,751cc. to 3,000cc. size engine is \$656, and cars with even larger motors will cost a maximum of \$1,252.

The tax can be paid in a lump sum or in deferred payments linked to the dollar.

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday approved a 16.5 per cent hike in the price of compulsory auto insurance on October 1. The panel voted 6-5 that the new rate would be in effect until December 31.

Russian Jews send holiday message

TEL AVIV (Itim). — "Jews of Israel, you are lucky to be living in a country your own... we call on you to remember your brothers," Jewish aliyah activists from the Soviet Union say in a Rosh Hashana message to Israel's Jews.

The message, signed "Aliya activists and refuseniks in the USSR," calls on every Israeli Jew to come to the aid of the aliyah activists' struggle. "The rising tide of official anti-Semitic propaganda, the ban on the return to the homeland, the expected severing of all ties, meant to put us in complete isolation, the

demonstrative arrests, the searches and persecution of Jewish activists," the message goes on, "are today the daily bread of those who want to return to their homeland — Israel."

Meanwhile, in a nine-hour search in the house of refusenik and Hebrew teacher Dan Shapira, Russian investigators broke *mezuzot* and confiscated all Hebrew material. Another Hebrew teacher whose home was searched, Ino Baruchin, has said she believes investigators are planning to arrest herself and Shapira. Investigators, who came to the activists' homes from Leningrad, claimed they were looking for drugs.

Salesman charged with theft-by-computer

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A salesman for a large import-export firm dealing in medical and security equipment was charged in the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday with using a computer to steal money from the company.

The man, Shmuel Goldberg, 37, of Givatayim, worked at the Gazit Company store in Tel Aviv from 1974 to 1982. The prosecution said

that in 1982, with the help of the store's computer, he stole \$521,000. The prosecution added that Goldberg is suspected of stealing in the other years of his employment as well.

Goldberg is alleged to have received cheques and cash in payment from customers, handed out tax receipts from the computer, but deposited the money in his own account.

Three charged with counterfeiting \$12m.

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Three persons were charged by the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court yesterday with participating in the counterfeiting ring that allegedly printed \$12 million in fake 100 dollar bills.

The three are Simon Honziashvili, 38, of Lod; Lea Rafael, 35, of Lod; and Shlomo Adari of Rishon LeZion. Honziashvili was not in court and his lawyer said he was in the Ramle prison hospital with a suspected heart attack.

However, the judge ordered Honziashvili remanded for another 13 days. Rafael was ordered held until September 30, and Adari was freed on IS80,000 bail.

Jerusalem nun drowns off Tel Aviv beach

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A Jerusalem nun vacationing in Tel Aviv drowned yesterday off one of the city's public beaches.

She was Ann-Marie Azola, 64, a member of the White Sisters Order in Jerusalem's Old City. She was apparently swept along by a sudden wave. She was pulled out lifeless by a first-aid crew.

No water price rise yet

TEL AVIV. — Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin and Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i yesterday decided not to raise the price of water until a Knesset water committee is formed.

Tripoli barricades go down as peace plan takes effect

BEIRUT. — A Syrian-brokered disengagement plan went into effect yesterday, separating rival Moslem militias in the northern port of Tripoli.

Lebanese security forces arrived after dawn to take over Tripoli's "hot areas" from two rival militias whose leaders signed a peace plan in Damascus last week.

The plan aims to disengage gunmen of the Sunni Moslem "Islamic Unification Movement" and the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party, whose clashes left 135 people dead in August alone.

Beirut Radio said six hours after the security plan went into force yesterday morning that the removal of barricades was going smoothly

and security forces were patrolling all areas of Tripoli. It said bulldozers had finished clearing Tubanneh, one of the city suburbs where gunmen frequently clashed.

The seven-point Syrian-mediated security agreement, similar to one operating in Beirut since July, bans gunmen from the streets and calls for the collection of their medium and heavy weapons.

These will be stored in special depots guarded by Lebanese police and Syrian troops.

Final agreement on putting the plan into force was reached last Sunday when Prime Minister Rashid Karamneh, a native of Tripoli, met leaders of the rival factions. (Reuters, AP)



Many friends, relatives and neighbours follow Rosh Ha'ayin's Avner Efrati, 22, to his grave on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem yesterday, where his mother requested that he be buried. Efrati was the co-pilot of the IAF helicopter which crashed. (Scoop 80, Yossi Zamir)

Kissinger warns Reagan: Stay out of Lebanon diplomacy

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

WASHINGTON. — Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger yesterday cautioned President Ronald Reagan against getting the U.S. involved in an Israeli-Syrian mediation effort aimed at securing an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon.

Kissinger, who negotiated the Israeli-Syrian disengagement of forces agreement on the Golan Heights in 1974, warned that the U.S. would be getting involved in a dangerous, no-win situation if it in-

terjected itself again in the situation in Lebanon.

Kissinger's warnings, made earlier in the day during an interview on ABC's *Good Morning America* and later repeated personally to Reagan at a White House meeting, surprised most observers in Washington.

The Reagan administration already had signalled its readiness to get involved in the effort, which Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir first proposed last week.

Kissinger is said to fear that U.S. diplomatic involvement in the cur-

Peres confers again with Egyptian envoy

Prime Minister Peres met yet again yesterday with the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, Mohammed Bassiouni, following a meeting the previous day and a meeting last week. This gave rise to speculation that the two are seeking ways to thaw the state of relations between the two countries.

The Peres-Bassiouni talks are believed to have focused on the issue of Taba, the disputed territory in Sinai south of Eilat. The Egyptians have

made resolution of the Taba question a prime requisite for Egypt's returning its ambassador to Israel. Peres has acknowledged in recent days that the matter is as significant in improving Israeli-Egyptian relations as the two countries' mutual desire to see Israel withdraw from South Lebanon.

Peres has indicated that he believes a compromise is possible in the Taba dispute, and the Egyptians are believed prepared to submit the matter to international arbitration.

Lebanon border shut for Rosh Hashana

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULA. — The Israel Defense Forces will today close all crossing points between northern and southern Lebanon, as well as the border between Lebanon and Israel, as part of a top alert called in the IDF for Rosh Hashana.

Travellers or goods will not be permitted to cross the Awali River crossing points of Batei A-Shouf or Jeb Jennine, or the international crossing points at Metulla and Rosh Hanikra. The closure is to be in effect from noon today until Sunday morning.

All units of the IDF in Lebanon

have been placed on high alert to foil any terrorist plans. In the past, terrorists have made special efforts to carry out attacks during holiday seasons.

On the eve of Shavuot last June, a terrorist cell crossed into the Golan Heights, intending to attack bathers at Elin Gev.

Earlier this week, another terrorist gang was intercepted off the Lebanese coast while on the way to Israel to carry out an attack. In the last few days there have also been bombs found in Jerusalem.

Yesterday, a Katyusha rocket was fired at an IDF outpost at Batei A-Shouf. There were no injuries.

PERES, SHAMIR

(Continued from Page One)

to discuss them, I assume his request will not be turned down."

Though the burgeoning tempest was quickly cooled and Shamir himself went on Kol Yisrael radio to rephrase his position in more temperate terms, both sides plainly had put down a marker delineating their respective positions.

This follows a similar mishap in separate interviews with *The Jerusalem Post* in recent days. Shamir said last week that the unity government's policy guidelines "prevent" exploratory talks on territorial compromise. Peres said in an interview with this newspaper this week that

the guidelines specifically enable such an approach.

Both leaders appear to be signalling to separate target audiences at home and abroad. Peres, in both incidents, is plainly interested that Jordan's King Hussein should recognize that the new government in Israel is prepared for new approaches. He is also anxious that ideological supporters in the Alignment recognize this as well.

Shamir's concerns are to reassure the Herut right wing that he would not countenance a territorial deal with Jordan, and to signal to the U.S. that pressing the Reagan plan would imperil the existence of the unity government.

Jordan and Egypt to resume relations

AMMAN (Reuters). — Egypt and Jordan have decided to restore diplomatic relations, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

Jordan cut ties, in line with Arab League policy, after Egypt joined in the U.S.-sponsored 1978 Camp David accords with Israel.

Yesterday's ministry statement followed a cabinet meeting after

King Hussein's return to Amman at the end of a two-week private visit to Britain.

Jordan's decision could lead to similar action by such Arab countries as Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Morocco, which have also been well disposed to normalizing relations with Egypt, according to diplomats here.

Four get jail sentences in 1977 soccer bribery case

By PAUL KOHN
Post Sports Reporter

PETAH TIKVA. — Former Israeli international soccer star, Nahum Stelmach, the coach of second-division Maccabi Ramat Amidar, was sentenced yesterday to a month's imprisonment, for his involvement in a soccer bribery scandal in May, 1977. Three others were also sentenced in the case.

Petah Tikva Magistrates Court Judge Sarah Frisch found Stelmach and three other people guilty last week of conspiracy to bribe Maccabi Petah Tikva defender Yitzhak Drucker to throw a match against Haifa Hapoel, the team Stelmach was then coaching and which was in danger of relegation. Haifa Hapoel beat Maccabi Petah Tikva 4-0.

Frisch sentenced Avraham Hameiri, a leading Haifa Labour Council official and municipal councillor, agent Binyamin Nebenhaus, and Drucker to two months' imprisonment, with three months suspended. Sentences are postponed until December 2 to enable the ac-

cused to appeal. Frisch ruled that the police had not proved that the bribe money, IL30,000, had actually been paid to Drucker.

She said that the crime was very serious, because it tarnished the good name of sport. Large amounts of public money are devoted to soccer and the Sportoto, and the public is entitled to expect the game to be kept clean, she said.

The Israel Football Association's consulting lawyers on whether Stelmach should be allowed to go on serving as a coach.

Hameiri yesterday offered to step down from his civic duties until his appeal has been heard.

Haifa Mayor Arye Gurel referred the matter to the municipality's legal adviser, who will make his recommendation soon. The mayor will then decide whether to accept Hameiri's offer. The Haifa Labour Council said it will await the outcome of Hameiri's appeal before deciding what action, if any, should be taken.

Axe to fall on 'Med-Dead' in 10% energy budget cut

By AARON SITTNER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

About IS900 million will be slashed from this year's development budget at the Energy and Infrastructure Ministry, a ministry source said yesterday.

The cutback — about 10 per cent of the year's total budget — will be the ministry's contribution to the government's campaign to reduce state expenditures this year by a \$1 billion.

Most of the cut will be achieved by lopping off IS400m. from the budget of the Mediterranean-Dead Sea Canal planning department. Ironically, the project had been very close to the heart of Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i when he was energy minister, and he fought efforts by former Finance Minister Yoram Aridor to cut spending on planning for the project.

A final recommendation on the economic feasibility of building the cross-country canal is expected in about three months. So far, about \$14m. have been spent on studies.

An additional IS300m. cut will be made in the ministry's nuclear-power-station research department. This unit studies the desirability of nuclear power facilities for Israel and chooses sites for them on a theoretical basis.

But the ministry also announced that due to rising housing prices, assistance to families eligible for state aid will be increased on October 1.

Research into possible new energy sources, fuel-conservation activities and basic energy-policy studies will also feel the pinch, a ministry spokesman pointed out.

During a visit to the Hadera power station yesterday, Energy Minister Moshe Shalal hinted at another 30 per cent increase in electricity rates soon. Maintaining that "electricity is still too cheap in this country," he told reporters that he will ask the Knesset Finance Committee to approve a 30 per cent hike.

If the committee agrees, the new increase will bring electricity prices to 60 per cent since the beginning of September.

Shalal reiterated that he intends to bring electricity rates for the consumer up to the Electric Corporation's actual cost of producing power. The adjustments, he said, would have to be made periodically, to compensate for the changing price of fuel on world markets and the change in the shekel's exchange rate.

Construction and Housing Minister David Levy, after meeting with senior ministry officials yesterday, announced that \$65m. will be cut this year from the ministry's budget.

Ata, getting deeper in debt, to press gov't for aid again

By DAVID RUDGE
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The troubled Ata textile concern will continue to press the government for financial aid, after being turned down once.

The company's chairman, Asher Levy, told reporters yesterday that Ata needs an interim loan to pay for raw materials and ensure continued production.

The firm has accumulated debts of \$20 million and is said to be losing \$1 million a month. It has announced on the stock exchange that it is having difficulty meeting financial liabilities.

Levy met the Ata works committee yesterday to explain the situation. Afterwards he told reporters that he hoped the government would help the company overcome its problems.

He said it was preferable from the social and economic point of view for the factory to continue in production

and provide jobs for the workers than for the government to pay the unemployment compensation.

Gershon Peled, an Ata worker for 25 years, said reports that Ata has accumulated debts of \$20 million and cannot meet its financial obligations had sparked fears that the firm will close.

"The mood among the employees is one deep depression, especially after what we have been through," said Peled.

He was referring to the struggle less than a year ago to save Ata, one of the oldest textile firms in the country.

At that time the company's major shareholders, the Eisenberg group, together with Bank Leumi and the government agreed on a \$10 million cash injection to bail Ata out.

A recovery programme was set into operation involving the dismissal of more than 400 workers from the firm's two main plants. Another 100 employees from subsidiary plants in the north were also dismissed, but this did not suffice to get the company out of its troubles.

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Court grants
injunction in
land disputeBy DAVID MANDEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The High Court of Justice yesterday granted an interim injunction to nine villagers from Beit Amin, near Tulkarm, who are seeking a halt to development work on land they claim is theirs.

The dispute goes back to January 1982, when a petition to the High Court by some of the current applicants was dismissed, but only after the attorney-general's representative had promised that the military government would not take sides in the question of the land's ownership and use.

But since then, according to advocate Felicia Langer, workers on behalf of five companies and one individual named in the petition, along with other unknown persons, have on many occasions undertaken clearing and construction work on the land.

Some of the respondents who halted their work following requests from local Judea/Samaria authorities renewed work last month, and the police, according to Langer, have refused to protect their clients' rights. She is asking for an order nisi against the military government and the police, demanding that they explain their refusal to defend the petitioners, and for a permanent injunction against any development work on the land.

Justice Shoshana Netanyahu ruled that the requests shall be heard by a three-justice panel at a future date, and ordered the respondents to make sure that no further work is carried out at the site until the High Court rules on the matter.



President Chaim Herzog greets Australian Ambassador Dr. Robert Merrillees at the presidential Rosh Hashana reception for the diplomatic community at Beit Hanassi yesterday.

Herzog hosts envoys on new year eve

By JUDY SIEGEL

Jerusalem Post Reporter
U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis, speaking for the entire diplomatic corps in Israel, yesterday congratulated Israel's leaders on their "tremendous effort" in forming a national unity government aimed at solving the country's pressing problems.

Lewis, doyen of the diplomatic corps with more than seven years of service here, was speaking at President Chaim Herzog's traditional Rosh Hashana eve reception for foreign envoys at Beit Hanassi. He also cited Herzog's efforts to bring about the broad government.

Herzog responded that after serving in Israel for some time, the

ambassadors must know the serious problems facing the nation in the coming year. But they also know that Israelis are a resilient people, he said.

Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens, who is acting foreign minister during the overseas trip of Yitzhak Shamir, represented the ministry along with Director-General David Kimche.

A minor diplomatic incident took place during the reception when Egyptian chargé d'affaires, Mohamed Bassiouni, a Moslem, was served a glass of champagne. He held it embarrassedly for a while and then managed to trade it for a glass of orange juice.

Begin stands up to receive rabbis in hospital

Former prime minister Menachem Begin was visited yesterday in the hospital by Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu and Avraham Shapira, who brought him greetings for the new year.

Begin, recovering in Shaare Zedek Hospital in Jerusalem from a

prostatectomy he underwent last week, stood at the entrance to his room to greet the rabbis.

He praised the hospital staff for their dedicated care of him.

Begin asked the rabbis to communicate to the nation his greetings for the new year. (Irim)

Ecologists distressed by raids on hyssop

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The bees, the cows and the hyssops that share the Ephraim and Menashe Heights in ecological balance are being disturbed by intrusive man.

The Nature Reserves Authority in its latest monthly bulletin, complains that a growing number of illegal harvesters from the nearby town of Tulkarm are raiding the hills of the hyssop, a herb that is used both as the popular "za'atar" spice and for making fragrant attar oil.

The small plant is a protected species, and the NRA recently took Tel Aviv Magistrates Court judges on a tour of the affected area to

impress on them the importance on cracking down on harvesters with deterrent punishments.

The NRA believes that most of the hyssop harvest is smuggled across the Allenby Bridge to neighboring Arab states, where it fetches high prices. It has proposed that local farmers start growing it commercially to save the natural crop.

Women and children from the town of Tulkarm are also taking large quantities. Once they were observed taking away 32 sacks of the herb on a truck, according to the NRA.

The herb is very important for beekeepers because it blooms late, when other plants have wilted, and tides the swarms over until the rains

come. This not only provides a lot of extra honey, but also ensures pollination, which is crucial for the ecology.

Cattle breeders who graze herds on the plateaus of the region are happy to keep hyssop out of their pastures, because the cows do not like its pungent taste. But the illegal harvesters, often several hundred at a time, spread the seeds as they cart off their loot, much to the breeders' displeasure.

In addition to lobbying for legal measures, the NRA has also started a large-scale information drive in the Arab community against the illegal harvesting.

It can't go on,' terror defendant cries as police deny bullying

By DAVID MANDEL

Temper flared yesterday in Jerusalem District Court as police witnesses in the trial of 20 alleged Jewish terrorists continued to contradict defence allegations that the accused were tricked and bullied into confessing after their arrest five months ago.

"It can't go on like this" shouted defendant Barak Nir, charged with murder in last year's submachine-gun and grenade attack on the Islamic College in Hebron and with attempted murder for planting time bombs under Arab-owned buses in Jerusalem last April. The judges ordered him to sit down and await the proper time to counter the version of his statements and the re-enactments of the crimes being presented from the witness stand.

The testimony came in the context of a mini-trial to determine the admissibility of statements and re-enactments which the prosecution wants to submit as evidence, over defence objections.

Jerusalem police investigator Shlomo Amir firmly denied that he had detected any signs that Nir was overfired or possibly drugged when he, Amir, was asked by the General Security Service to record Nir's statement concerning the bus bombs.

Nir was "tense and restless," however, he said, adding that the suspect "at his own initiative" began talking about the Hebron attack as well. This, Amir noted, was news to him, and he rushed to tell the GSS agent about it.

The defence has charged that the GSS men induced Nir and others to talk by, on the one hand, pretending to support their alleged actions and promising that much of what they revealed would never be brought to court, and, on the other hand, depriving them of sleep and decent

food and threatening that they would be "put away forever" if they did not cooperate.

Amir also denied that anything unusual occurred when Barak Nir re-enacted his alleged crime two days after his arrest. At one point, the witness said, the defendant asked to be alone for a moment, and when a GSS man present approached him nevertheless, Amir and another policeman objected to the "interference."

But Amir, under cross-examination, dismissed the suggestion that Nir was crying during his moment alone over having been forced to cooperate and that only the GSS man's words — presumably a reiteration of earlier threats — enabled the re-enactment to continue.

Amir said Nir's statements and re-enactments, along with those of his brother Shaul Nir, Uzi Sharabaf, Yehoshua Ben-Shoshan, Yitzhak Novik and Nathan Nathanson, which Amir witnessed or conducted, were given freely. He denied having heard anything from either the suspects or the GSS agents about an agreement by which some of what they disclosed would not be used against them in court.

Amir also told the court of "private conversations" with some of the suspects in which they frankly explained the motives for the alleged crimes. He referred vaguely to arguments about the government's alleged failure to hit back against West Bank Arabs who attacked settlers.

Amir specifically mentioned holding such conversations with Sharabaf and Shaul Nir, and he also told of talking with Nir and Ben-Shoshan about their feelings on their families' ability to cope with the likelihood of long prison terms. The witness said he had been curious as to why the defendants had so readily agreed to

confess and had asked Nir, who replied that he felt an obligation not to create difficulties for the police and the GSS.

Pressed hard by defence lawyer Dan Avi-Yitzhak about the "private conversations," Amir admitted that none of them had been recorded in protocols of his sessions with the defendants. Furthermore, in most cases, he could not recall exactly where and when the talks were held.

No such conversations ever took place, Avi-Yitzhak argued between questions. Three other policemen who took part in the recording of the defendants' statements took the stand more briefly before Amir. Avi-Yitzhak accused one of them, Yossi Ben-Zichri, of trying to avoid mention of his presence during Barak Nir's confession.

"Did you help prod him to stay awake?" the lawyer asked sarcastically, over Ben-Zichri's protests that it was not necessary.

The hard feelings engendered in yesterday's session spilled over to the families of the accused after the court was adjourned. On most days, the defendants have been permitted to mingle freely with their families and dine on food brought from home before being bused back to Tel Mond prison. But this time, the police officer in charge, Inspector Yosef Levy, tried to insist that they leave immediately.

A shouting match and near-suffle erupted, with the defendants accusing Levy of "having it in for them." They claimed that the judges had sanctioned the visiting hour and assumed that Levy wished them to sit in the prison bus outside the building for an hour while a hearing for defendant Uri Maier went on in an adjoining courtroom.

Levy, backed by one of the judges' clerks, denied that there had been a ruling on the subject. But the judges

themselves were unavailable, and he eventually gave in. "To prevent a disturbance."

In the course of the row, defendant Menahem Livni's wife thought she saw chief prosecutor Dorit Beish smiling at the prisoners' misfortune, and began shouting "inhuman, evil woman" at her.

Meanwhile, advocate Shlomo Toussia-Cohen made his first appearance in the trial since the prosecution began presenting its case last week. He argued on behalf of Maier that the long-drawn-out process of the mini-trial has made it unjust for his client to remain in jail.

Maier, Toussia-Cohen noted, is not challenging any evidence pertaining to him. Furthermore, he said, the charge of attempted murder against Maier was unlikely to stand up, since it concerns a 1980 mission to place a bomb under the car of Bethlehem leader Ahmed Natshe which was aborted in the preliminary stages. His client participated in none of the group's subsequent actions, Toussia-Cohen said.

The judges summarily dismissed the plea, agreeing with the prosecution's Uzi Hasson that nothing substantive had changed since bail was first denied and the decision upheld by the Supreme Court.

Presiding Judge Ya'acov Bazak wanted to grant Toussia-Cohen's alternative request that Maier be allowed to spend Rosh Hashana with his family. But Bazak was overruled by the two other judges on the case, Shmuel Finkelstein and Zvi Cohen.

This morning at 8:30, the High Court of Justice is to hear arguments on the defence's petition for access to records of the Security Service surveillance of the men now on trial. The material was certified as classified for reasons of state security by former defence minister Moshe Arens.

Fund started to help finance
Plem youth's heart operation

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

David Ben-Sa'adon, 19, of Jerusalem, was born with a rare heart defect that has kept him confined to his bed for a good part of his life. Specialists at Jerusalem's Hadassah Medical Centre are optimistic that Ben-Sa'adon's condition is curable — but the highly specialized equipment and expertise for the surgery he requires are not available here.

Professor Azzi Applebaum of Hadassah's cardiology department has recommended that Ben-Sa'adon seek treatment at the University Medical Centre in Birmingham, Alabama. Hadassah has been in contact with the medical centre in Birmingham, but no date has been scheduled for Ben-Sa'adon's admittance.

Ben-Sa'adon's family cannot afford the cost of the operation and the expenses of the recuperation period. A family member said that an application has been made to Kupat Holim Chai to subsidize the costs, but even if the request is approved, the Hadassah fund will finance only part of Ben-Sa'adon's hospitalization, and not his travelling expenses or those of accompanying relatives.

The total cost for surgery, hospitalization and travelling expenses has been estimated at about \$40,000. A fund has been opened.

Anyone who wishes to contribute can deposit contributions to the order of account number 143500 in the Me'a She'arim branch of Bank Hapoalim.

Shapira, feeling heat, says
he'll quit bank chairmanship

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

Post Knesset Reporter

Avraham Shapira (Agudat Yisrael), chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee, has announced that he will resign as chairman of the Bank of Israel Advisory Committee in the next few months.

His announcement on Monday followed the release of a press communique by Knesset Member Mordechai Bar-On (Citizens Rights Movement) saying that he had obtained an opinion on the propriety of Shapira's holding both jobs from Knesset legal advisers Zvi Enbar and Eliezer Dembitz.

Although the two legal advisers said they could not declare categorically, from a legal point of view, that a conflict of interest is involved, they recommended that Shapira be strict with himself "in order to lay down a positive norm."

Bar-On said that Shapira had

promised him that he would follow that recommendation and give up "one of the two posts," but not immediately. On the strength of that promise, Bar-On agreed not to take any further action for the time being.

Shapira later supplied Knesset reporters with copies of the opinions of lawyers Amnon Goldenberg and Avraham Lazovik (the latter a former legal adviser of the Bank of Israel). Both wrote Shapira that they saw no legal impediment to his continuing to fill both posts.

Nevertheless, Shapira's assistant told the press, he would relinquish one of the two posts within a few months — evidently the bank chairmanship.

Shapira also circulated a list showing that eight former MKs — including Yohanan Bader, Aharon Becker, Akiva Govrin, and Haim Zadok — were simultaneously members of the Bank of Israel Advisory Committee or Knesset Finance Committee.

Tora-scroll theft
gets Lod man
8 years in prison

TEL AVIV (Irim). — A 26-year-old Lod man was sentenced by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday to eight years in prison for stealing Tora scrolls and other thefts.

Michael Sapiashvili was convicted of stealing three Tora scrolls from the Ohel Yitzhak synagogue in the Habad quarter of Lod and then trying to "sell" them back to the same synagogue.

At the request of the defence a number of other theft and burglary charges against Sapiashvili were consolidated into the trial. In one burglary, Sapiashvili entered the flat of a crippled 68-year-old man. When Sapiashvili found the man in his flat, the prosecution said, he knocked the man down, kicked him in the head until he bled, pulled a gold ring from his finger, and then stole other items from the flat.

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MESSAGE TO OUR BRETHERN IN THE USSR

We address ourselves on the eve of Rosh Hashana to you, our brothers and sisters in the USSR — to those who are in prison and exile, to the many thousands who for years have been living in the limbo of "refusal," to the hundreds of thousands who have expressed their desire to be reunited with their people in their Homeland.

We have come to a meeting in London from the Jewish communities in Israel, Europe and the Western Hemisphere, to say to you that we have not forgotten you, and that we shall never forget you.

We have come to tell you that we know that, although you have done nothing to harm the Soviet Union and will do nothing to harm it, you have been harassed and hounded during this past year, in ways which remind you and us of the tragic events of the black period we all thought had ended in 1953.

We wish to tell you that there is a difference between then and now. Today we are aware of what is being done to you. Today there are no secrets. Today there is a free Jewish Homeland, whose doors are open to you, and there is a Jewish people which will not allow itself or others rest until justice is done, and your rights to be part of your people, and to live in the Homeland of your People, are respected.

We have worked this week to plan our actions on your behalf, and we go back to our communities to carry out those plans. We shall act not in a spirit of enmity towards the USSR. We shall work for a world of peace and co-existence because that is the essence of our Jewish being, and because we know from bitter experience that the Jewish people is a principal sufferer in war. Peace, co-existence and international cooperation require that your rights be granted, as you have defined them.

We salute your courage and we bow our heads in awe at your long suffering and your steadfastness.

Despite the great distance that separates us, we extend our hands to you. Heart to heart, we say to you, be strong and courageous because your day of redemption is near. May the new year be a year of peace for you and the entire world.

We solemnly promise that we shall place at your disposal all the strength and vigour of the Jewish people, until our common goal is achieved and you return home.

Next year in Jerusalem!

London, September 20, 1984
Ehul 23, 5744

The International Council of the
World Conference on Soviet Jewry.
Arye L. Duzin
Chairman

Soviets brush aside Reagan's olive branch

MOSCOW. — The Soviet Union yesterday dismissed President Ronald Reagan's appeal for better relations as meaningless, as President Konstantin Chernenko made a new attack accusing Washington of not really desiring better ties.

A commentary by the official news agency Tass said Reagan's call for a dialogue with Moscow in an address to the UN on Monday showed no shift in his policies and offered no realistic proposals.

"The president's words about peace were meant only to camouflage Washington's basic foreign-policy guidelines and its interventionist policy in all regions of the world," Tass said.

The commentary followed a strong attack on U.S. attitudes to East-West relations by Chernenko in a speech to the Writers' Union in Moscow.

"They in the United States... either do not want, or are not yet ready to understand, that there is no sensible alternative to the normalization of Soviet-American relations," he said.

The people of the world have to decide if they are on the side of the "imperialists," meaning the U.S., who are preparing for war, or the Soviet Union, which is trying to achieve disarmament and save civilization, he said.

U.S. presidential challenger Walter Mondale on Monday questioned the timing of Reagan's overtures toward the Soviet Union.

Campaigning in Texarkana, Texas, Mondale wondered whether Reagan's overtures amounted to a "deathbed last-minute conversion" or a real switch from his anti-Soviet rhetoric of past years. (Reuters, AP)

Americans to beef up security at embassies around the world

NEW YORK (Reuters). — The Reagan administration will seek more than \$370 million to improve protection for U.S. embassies around the world following the attack on the U.S. embassy annex in Beirut last Thursday.

The announcement was made Monday by the State Department, which also said investigators probing the blast now believe the bomb that shattered the annex contained 1,360 kilograms of TNT. Earlier estimates put the amount at about one tenth of that.

The new estimate was made in a

report to Secretary of State George Shultz following an on-the-spot investigation by a team led by the department's counter-terrorism chief, Robert Oakley.

It was also revealed that President Reagan's budget director has been told to ask Congress for \$371,566,000 to provide extra protection for U.S. Embassies worldwide.

The money would be used to improve perimeter barriers, for construction of new embassies in cities where security is risky and for armored vehicles.

U.S. extradites jailed Italian banker

MILAN (Reuters). — Sicilian financier Michele Sindona, charged in Italy with conspiracy to murder and fraud, arrived in Milan yesterday after the U.S. agreed to his temporary extradition, Italian news agencies reported.

Reporters at Malpensa said Sindona was bundled off the Transatlantic flight into a waiting police car and driven away.

Sindona, who is serving a 25-year sentence imposed four years ago in the U.S. for conspiracy and fraud, will be tried in Italy first for conspira-

cy to murder.

He is accused of plotting the murder of Giorgio Ambrosoli, a Milan banker, who was appointed to liquidate Sindona's financial empire following the collapse of his Banca Privata Italiana in 1974.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman said the extradition treaty, ratified in Washington only yesterday, stipulated that Sindona, once known as "God's Banker" because of his previous links with the Vatican, would eventually have to serve out the rest of his term back in the U.S.

Britain, China to sign on Hongkong today

PEKING (AP). — Hongkong Governor Sir Edward Youde arrived in Peking last night on the eve of the historic signing of a draft agreement that will return the British colony to China in 1997.

The agreement will be initialled at 10 a.m. today in Peking's Great Hall of the People by Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Zhou Nan and

British Ambassador Sir Richard Evans, leaders of the teams that drafted the document in two years of difficult negotiations.

Share prices on the Hongkong Stock Exchange soared on the eve of the initialling, with the Hang Seng index reaching its highest level since May 2.

S. Africa angers Britain by refusing extradition

LONDON. — The Foreign Office summoned South Africa's ambassador yesterday as relations between the two countries plunged into crisis over six fugitives hiding in a British consulate in South Africa.

Ambassador Denis Worrall was called in by Foreign Office Minister Baroness Young after the South Africans angrily announced they would renege on a promise to turn over four men for trial here on arms-smuggling charges until the consulate in Durban evicted the fugitive dissidents.

The Foreign Office said it deplored the South African move. The opposition Labour party, which accuses Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of being soft on South Africa's apartheid policies, pressed her for a tough response to Pretoria's latest move.

Meanwhile, South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said South Africa's tolerance of the British attitude was wearing thin, adding that it would be an understatement to say relations between the two countries were delicate.

Thatcher has pledged not to evict the dissidents, five Indians and a black, who sought refuge in the consulate two weeks ago. They oppose the white minority government and are wanted by the police under detention orders permitting indefinite imprisonment without trial.

The four South Africans Botha said who would stay in South Africa had been charged in a British court in March with illegally exporting military equipment to South Africa.

They were released on bail and allowed to return home before the trial, after a South African diplomat waived his diplomatic immunity and stood as a surety for them. Official sources said the diplomat would probably be questioned by the British court.

Britain is one of South Africa's main trading partners but does not sell its arms because of a UN embargo on military sales to Pretoria.

Diplomatic sources on both sides of the dispute said it had serious implications for relations between the two countries. (AP, Reuters).

Violence in Basque protests throughout northern Spain

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain (Reuters). — A wave of violence has swept northern Spain for a second successive night as Basques protested against France's tough new policy towards Spanish Basque exiles.

The police said hundreds of demonstrators took to the streets in more than 20 cities and towns in protest last night against a French decision to send three suspected Basque separatist guerrillas back to Spain to stand trial for murder.

The protesters blocked road and rail routes, burned French vehicles and French flags and threw rocks at policemen. The police said several persons were slightly hurt but would not say whether any were arrested.

In Madrid, 200 persons gathered

near the French embassy shouting slogans against the extraditions.

The protests took place as the Socialist government of Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez congratulated itself on persuading France to change its policy and extradite the wanted men. "I think that it constitutes a clear recognition of the democratic institutions of Spain," Gonzalez told a French television interviewer.

France has in the past refused extradition requests from Spain on the grounds that it was upholding its tradition of providing political refuge.

On Sunday, the Socialist government in Paris said it would send the three murder suspects back to Spain and expel four others to Togo.

Rival rallies before Bangladesh strike

DACCA (Reuters). — Thousands of people poured onto the streets of Dhaka yesterday for rival pro- and anti-government demonstrations ahead of a national strike called in Bangladesh for tomorrow by opposition leaders.

The strike is aimed at forcing the country's military ruler, President Hussain Mohammed Ershad, to end martial law.

GANGSTERS. — More than 1,500 gangsters have surrendered to Taiwan police during a four-month amnesty that ended yesterday.

French troops begin pullback from Chad

N'DJAMENA, Chad (AP). — Two hundred French soldiers left their positions at Salal and Agada in northern Chad yesterday as part of a mutual troop withdrawal from the African nation announced last week by France and Libya, well-informed sources said.

Neither the French military command nor the Chad government would confirm the report.

But earlier the French Foreign Ministry in Paris said the withdrawal had begun normally.

The troops that withdrew, the sources said, were members of advance patrols and they pulled back to Moussoro 120 kilometres from their previous positions.

Eventually, the 1,800 French troops in the interior of the country will reach N'Djamena, the capital. The withdrawal is scheduled to be completed in mid-November.

There was no word from the Libyan capital of Tripoli on whether a similar pullout had started on the other side of the 16th-parallel "red line" that divides the country into a rebel-held north and a government-controlled south.

The ministry said French officials had arrived in Kano in northern Nigeria to take part in a mixed commission with Libya that will oversee the withdrawal.

Sports



Shmuel Zisman, the Hapoel Tel Aviv point guard, misses a vital shot from the foul line, a miss that resulted in Maccabi Tel Aviv beating Hapoel Tel Aviv 88-87. Otherwise he played brilliantly. (Guthmann)

Luckless Zisman

By DON GOULD
Post Basketball Reporter

Much of the blame for Hapoel Tel Aviv's one point 88-87 loss to Maccabi Tel Aviv in Monday's derby match at Yad Eliyahu is being placed unfairly on the shoulders of their hustling point guard Shmuel Zisman. With the score 88-87 in favor of Maccabi, and 12 seconds left to play, Zisman was fouled and went to the foul line for a one and one. He missed the first try, thus turning the ball over to the Maccabi Tel Aviv on the rebound of the missed shot.

The one and one rule provides that, if a team commits eight fouls in a half, and then commits a further offense, the player substituted in place of having only one free throw at the basket, will have two, on condition that he has his first effort. Maccabi were over the top of eight fouls. If Zisman had converted his attempt, the score would have been 88-87 and he would have had one more free throw to give his team the lead so close to the end. But he missed.

Over a 40-minute game in 40 minutes, Zisman's shot missed and 12 seconds left to keep Hapoel Tel Aviv in the game in the place. Despite his miss, Hapoel Tel Aviv is a quicker and sharper on offense when he plays than when he doesn't.

On to Donetsk

By JACK LEON
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel's Davis Cup team of Shlomo Glickstein, Shai Perles, Amos Mansdorf and Eyal Sinai yesterday flew into Donetsk from Moscow, to begin their acclimatization training for this week's controversial European Zone "A" final against the Soviet Union.

After national coach Ron Stead was granted an entry visa on Monday night, International Tennis Federation administrator Shirley Wadsworth commented that "The Soviet Union have now fulfilled all the Davis Cup regulations."

After a hiatus since 1938, when they named their team as Vlasov, Borisov, Zverev, Sergel Lomskov and Andrei Cherkov. The Russians are something of an underdog, as they seldom compete on the world circuit, though Borisov, Zverev and Cherkov were once world pre-tournament favorites. These two players have made a major contribution to the Soviet's impressive Davis Cup record over nearly a decade, with the latter probably Borisov's victories over France's Nicolas Pietrangeli and Czechoslovakia's Jan Hlavacek, they beat in turn Mexico, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, to reach the final round last year.

The international referee this weekend will be Patrick Floods of France, while the two umpires will also be French.

SOCCER PREVIEW

Haifa look sharp

By PAUL KOHN
Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The soccer champions and current leaders Maccabi Haifa, play at home on Saturday against Maccabi Netanya. Haifa have won both their games because their strikers Zahi Amich and Moshe Selektor are strong free runners and get a beautiful supply of good passes from schemer Baruch Maman. Until opposing defenses devise methods to cut out their through balls, the Haifa attack is going to put in goals.

Maccabi Netanya have opened the season with two drawn games, one of which they might have won had they been sharper in front of goal. Gariani, Lamm and Pissani in the midfield make the opening, but David Lavie badly needs a reinforcement up front. If he does, Netanya may surprise the champions.

In a double-header at the Herta Stadium, Maccabi Tel Aviv play Bnei Yehuda and Hapoel Tel Aviv clash in a Tel Aviv derby. Maccabi Tel Aviv, fielding a young team, have looked sluggish in their games so far. Bnei Yehuda in goal. At Herta Stadium may keep opening attacks at bay, but from where and from whom are the Maccabi goals going to come? Better have a balanced team on paper but on often disappointed when it comes to goals. I doubt that there will be much in it at the end of the day.

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for orchestra, choir, and tenor.

Intermission: Refreshments in Succa

Lectures: "Emunah In Our Era" by Rav Shlomo Wolbe.
Dean, Jamie Lehmann Institute of Torah Ethics
(Read by Rabbi Michael Sittmann)
"Mishneh Torah — (The Early Printed Editions)"
In commemoration of the 850th birthday of Maimonides by Prof. Eliezer Hurvitz.
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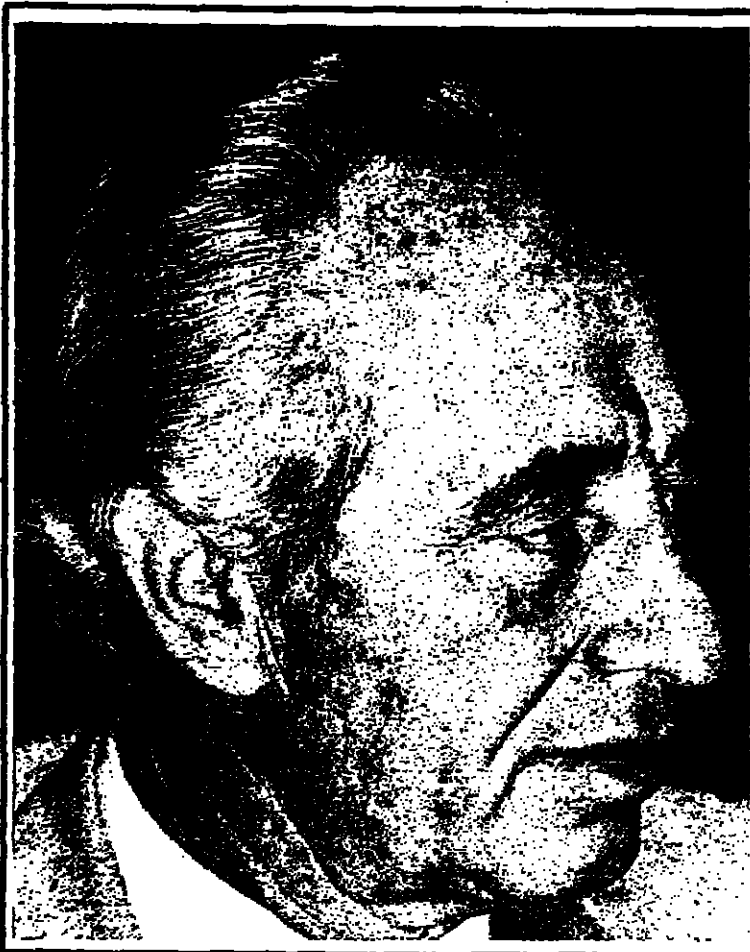
The Board reserves the right to divide the quantity to be supplied by the tender among a number of suppliers.

Zvi Gur-Arie
Managing Director

Forum

A Rosh Hashana interview with Prime Minister Shimon Peres, by The Post's Mark Segal

A SURPRISING HARMONY



IN THE SECOND WEEK of his premiership, Shimon Peres clearly bears the impact of the political war of attrition that preceded the formation of his government of national unity. The premier's pale appearance may also be attributed to the murderous pace of his first 10 days in office.

Aides say that Peres is invariably the first to arrive at the Prime Minister's Office in the Jerusalem Kirya, after an hour's journey from Tel Aviv. And he usually stays late, sometimes arriving home around midnight. It is as if Peres wishes to make up for all the time he spent just outside those corridors of power which he now occupies.

Peres' uncluttered good taste is evident in the conference room, where the clutter of maps and pictures has been cleared away. The room has fewer decorations: only the photograph of the region, taken from Apollo 7 in October 1968 and presented to then-premier Golda Meir by American astronaut Walter Schirra, remains.

On one wall now hangs a painting by Mane Katz. Another has a large woven tapestry of "Jerusalem, the Heavenly." On a third is a double row of portraits of Israel's first six prime ministers — David Ben-Gurion, Moshe Sharett, Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir, Yitzhak Rabin and Menachem Begin.

The prime minister commutes daily from his Tel Aviv home, preferring not to live in a Jerusalem hotel until repairs on his official residence have been completed. His day usually starts at 5 a.m., with the early hours devoted to a perusal of the press and indulgence in his passion for reading.

All his life, Shimon Peres has read history, biographies and poetry. He has just finished a biography of Mussolini, and Barbara Tuchman's *The March of Folly*. The prime minister was also greatly interested in the biography of Anthony Crosland, the late British Labour leader,

presented to him by Crosland's widow, Susan, during her recent visit to Israel.

Another recent gift was a set of Gibbon's *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, presented to him by Hani Bergmann, the widow of his friend, Dr. Ernst Bergmann. He is also reading new collections of poetry by two of his favourites — a new publication of the early works of Natan Altermann, and the latest verse by Natan Zach.

The suite of offices in the Kirya at Ben-Gurion building is occupied by a fresh set of faces. Peres' loyal and talented personal staff, which worked with him at Labour Party headquarters, is in the process of settling in. The PM's bureau is now in the hands of the affable Boaz Appelbaum and his two dedicated secretaries, Estie Tagger and Dalia Bassa. There is a new political adviser, Dr. Nimrod Novik, of Tel Aviv University; and a new counter-terror adviser, Amiram Nir. In the absence of a permanent spokesman, press is handled by Baruch Askarov, and by Linda Rembaum, on loan from the Government Press Office.

Dr. Yosef Beilin, a long-time party aide, contributed much to setting up the PM's office, until this week, when he moved upstairs to his new post as government secretary. Beilin says that "the change-over was not carried out in as orderly a manner as it should have been. We found an empty office. The others just walked out and left the place. Estie and Dalia had no guidance on how to run things. We had a tough induction."

The change of mood at the Prime Minister's Office is reflected in the portrait of David Ben-Gurion which hangs over the premier's desk. Peres clearly wants to emulate his mentor, particularly the Old Man's optimistic view of the country's future. The new premier obviously hopes that such an upbeat mood will filter through to the general population.

interrupt anyone in the midst of expounding an idea.... You know, many ministers are surprised at themselves and at their colleagues. They would never have believed that such harmony was possible. It's a really interesting experience. This government has a solid quality from a personal aspect. It contains many experienced men in a wide variety of fields, from a rabbi to a major-general. It has two former prime ministers, five defence ministers, three chiefs of general staff plus another two senior generals, a kibbutznik, a moshavnik and a resident of a development town. It is most representative of our society. It is a worthy company, whether one agrees with the views of each of its members or not."

He went on to register his belief that as a result of this government, Israel would enjoy a much better political image.

"We can emerge from the economic crisis and return to ourselves and to our old values. There is going to be a new style. Already, the unity government has lowered tensions and got rid of political and personal vilification.... After all, it's difficult to sit with someone at the same table and to attack him at the same time. We've already shown that important discussions can be conducted in a civil manner."

And leaks from the cabinet room? "I don't get worked up about them. After all, I did not expect a picnic. It's too easy to leak from cabinet meetings. You know, all these years there have been leaks from the cabinet room, and the State of Israel has survived. I would recommend every minister to forgo headlines and maintain self-control. It will give him a measure of dignity."

Asked whether the Histadrut should emulate the broad government coalition, the Labour Party leader replied that there was a completely different situation at the General Federation of Labour.

"After all, the parties joined the coalition because they had no choice in the matter. At the Histadrut there is a massive majority of one party. For my part, I'm leaving the matter to the Histadrut leaders to decide."

THE PRIME MINISTER wished to use the columns of *The Jerusalem Post* to convey his Rosh Hashana greetings and a New Year message to the Jewish people in Israel and the Diaspora. His gist was: "To my fellow Israelis, I say we have to go through a very tough period in the coming year. But I can assure all of you that we will emerge much stronger both economically and politically. I appeal to all my fellow citizens: Don't just rely on the government. (Continued on Page 6)

have found that it's possible to reach an agreement with them without negotiations, just as with the Lebanese one can negotiate but reach no agreement in the end."

As to the prospects of reviving relations with Egypt, Premier Peres confirmed that the Egyptian Charge d'affaires Mohammed Bassiouni had called on him with a message from President Hosni Mubarak. For Egypt, the main obstacles to defrosting relations were Lebanon and the Tabat dispute. He pointed out that the Egyptians were fully aware of the Israel government's serious intentions to end the Lebanon episode. As far as Tabat was concerned, Peres said he was studying the matter. He said he needed for arbitration, adding with a laugh, "Maybe we could apply the principle of territorial compromise to the 1,200 square metres involved in the dispute."

THE PREMIER did not accept the notion that the economic measures taken so far had created a mood of disappointment and a sense of missed opportunity. He declared vehemently, "This government cannot be being because the economy is so dangerously over-heated. Some economists see the shape of the flames and seek the architect. We are reaching for pails of water. The steps we have taken do not yet amount to a set plan.... We're resolved to cut one billion dollars from the budget. The previous government decided to introduce cuts, but never got beyond that stage. We're determined to implement our decisions and we won't rest a minute in pursuing these plans. Some economists talk of cutting two billion. But that's impossible. After all, can we reduce our hospitals? Or our schools? Or the number of policemen?"

Peres noted that this week, the government has adopted admittedly

painful measures of draining money from the public and of reducing purchasing power at the rate of \$500m-\$600m. "That was an exceedingly harsh step, but it was not taken without considering the less well-off. Thus we abolished the subsidy on fuel but not on bread."

Another painful measure had been the imposition of a property tax, "but we had no choice. We have to awaken the nation to our painful economic reality."

Mentioning the discussions with the Histadrut, the prime minister noted that the economic experts had urged that the cost-of-living payments should be suspended for the coming two months, adding, "from their point of view they're right, but that's impossible."

He pointed out that the level of the price index had already been determined for the coming two months by the actions of the previous government. Here he revealed that next month's index was expected to show a 20 per cent price increase.

Speaking with compassion, he declared, "We can hardly demand such a sacrifice of a man earning \$250 a month, or that someone earning \$500 a month should lose \$100 in one go. Hence we have adopted a progressive approach also acceptable to the Histadrut, and are thus preserving industrial peace."

New taxation included a 10 per cent surtax for one month on upper incomes and an 8 per cent levy on medium-range salaries. This would be followed by a compulsory loan for three months of 7 per cent on upper brackets and 5 per cent on medium incomes. Peres concluded that this might not sound like too much, "but it is the first time that the Histadrut has agreed to lower wages."

As to the prospects of a package deal in four months' time, the prime

minister replied, "No one in his senses thinks we can get such an agreement before the government cuts its own budget." The budget's figures were in the area of \$21b., but in fact only \$11b. were available for the reduction programme, after debt servicing and so forth. Thus it was hoped to cut 10 per cent of the budget "across the board."

THE PREMIER revealed his intention of trying to establish a joint council, on the Austrian model, on which the government employers and the Histadrut would serve. It would be a permanent forum for regular discussions about such key economic factors as taxes, interest rates, prices and wages. He trusted that all concerned would join the government in what should become a major framework for achieving national co-operation in rescuing the economy.

The next phase would be the renewal of economic growth. He declared a giant industrial survey was already underway. Each manufac-

turer would be asked three questions: Can you double your production and export levels? Are you ready to build a new plant in a development town? What do you need?

He promised that immediate attention would be accorded to industrialists' requests and that the authorities would strive to get on right away with the implementation of industrial expansion.

Here he injected a personal note: "I don't have pretensions about being an economic expert, but I do have a record as a do-er." He went on to say with deep feeling: "As a people we have been living well beyond our means. In the past seven years there has been an awful waste of a great deal of money. It is my solemn hope that within a year we will manage to get the national economy back onto the rails and be able to look to a future of growth and development. Of course, I realize that we're in for criticism from the economic experts and the media, but nonetheless we will persist in our

policies, because we believe we are pursuing the right course."

ASKED WHETHER, as the first prime minister in many years to get so involved in economic matters, he had evoked a positive response from his colleagues, Peres replied that the initial reaction from many quarters had been anger. However, things were now working out.

"I'm not deluding myself. One needs lots of patience and above all not to panic. After all, it is such an obvious conclusion that former governments mismanaged this major sphere.... In my view, the entire government should become the finance minister and give its fullest backing to economic measures. Otherwise, we won't succeed."

Talking of the national unity government's initial performance, Premier Peres reported:

"The ministers are behaving handsomely. Of course, it's a rather large government, and the length of each session depends on the number of participants. I do my best not to

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THE THUNDER of the dispute between Vice Premier Yitzhak Shatzman and his Herut rivals has all but drowned out the murmurs of discontent in the ranks of the Labour Party, where there is a growing feeling that Prime Minister Shimon Peres and his colleagues on the top troika neglected their own backs in their hurry to grab the helm of the ship of state. Inside the government, this sense of discontent was voiced by Health Minister Mordechai Gur (Motta) Gur, who has said that "our party negotiating team lowered our ideological flags too quickly and too easily." Gur claims that the negotiators conducted the coalition talks to the Labour Party's disadvantage, and that positions of power and influence were unnecessarily sacrificed in the push to power.

But the sharpest reproach came from the head of Labour's religious circles, Rabbi (and MK) Menachem Hacohen. He declared, tartly: "Our party has three fundamental principles on which it will never unpin: Shimon Peres, Yitzhak Rabin and Yitzhak Navon."

Another senior member of the Labour back-bench preferred to remain anonymous when he says: "Is Shimon Peres going to turn out as a Francois Mitterrand or a Ramsay MacDonald?" That is a pointed contrast between Peres' friend, who lost seven presidential elections before finally becoming the occupant of the Elysee Palace, and the British Labour leader who formed a national government in the mid-Thirties, only to lose the bulk of his party's support.

IT MAY BE too early to gauge the Histadrut's reaction to the latest assault on wage-earners by Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i. But even before the whopping price increases on just about everything, some Labour Party and Histadrut people were sniping at Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar for being too soft.

Still, Kessar has not been a push-over. Witness this comment, made at a recent meeting of the catering trades workers: "All of us know the kind of people who stay at five-star hotels and complain that they too can't usually manage to make ends meet at the end of the month in Israel. Usually they manage exceedingly well to complete the month abroad."

MEANWHILE, there appears to be considerable quiet support in Labour for the suggestion of MK Pinhas Goldstein (Likud/Liberals) to postpone next year's Histadrut elections. They are not quite certain how Kessar would fare against a strong

attack by Deputy Premier David Levy, should he repeat his 1981 pitch as a "strong man for the Histadrut."

IT MAY BE a symbol of the new era of national unity or just a coincidence, but we could not help noting that the first Israeli city to grant its freedom to Prime Minister Shimon Peres was Lod. In case you are interested, Mayor Maxim Levy of Lod has a relative in government—he's his brother of Deputy Premier David Levy.

THE FAMILY LIFE of Sonya and Shimon Peres has been somewhat disrupted by the shift to Jerusalem. The prime minister has been commuting between his Jerusalem office and his Ramat Aviv home. Mr. and Mrs. Peres will have to wait a month or two before settling in to their permanent (for 25 months) home, at the official PM's residence on the corner of Jerusalem's Balfour and Smolenskin Streets. Mrs. Peres is busy working on the redecoration for her future home with Dora Gad, one of Israel's leading interior designers, who had started the job last year for Mrs. Shulamit Shamir.

Gad has a sentimental attachment to the 50-year-old house, originally designed in the Bauhaus style by Richard Kaufmann. Back in 1951, Gad (who is married to Aluf (res.) Ephraim Ben-Artzi), worked on the interior architecture for Israel's first foreign minister, the late Moshe Sharett. The Sharett's Gad told me, brought furniture from their previous official residence in Tel Aviv's Tel Binyamin quarter. She expresses satisfaction that some of the furniture she had made for the Sharett's three decades ago is still in good condition, and only needs some reupholstery.

Mrs. Peres asked Gad to "adopt an understated line" in the two-storey house. Gad says the project has been given "a modest budget," recalling that the Sharett's furnishings were financed by a gift from Italian Jewish magnate Astorre Mayer.

Designer Gad, complaining about the "way we neglect government property," told Public Faces that essential repairs had not been done in some time, due to the illness of the late Aliza Begin. Current work includes rewiring, replacement of corroded pipes, and a major kitchen face-lift.

ANOTHER SHIFT. Peres has also reopened the famous house in the Defence Ministry compound at Tel Aviv's Kirya, which housed the Tel Aviv office of every prime minister

Murmurs of discontent

PUBLIC FACES/MARK SEGAL



Ora Namir



Mordechai Gur

from David Ben-Gurion to Yitzhak Rabin. Menachem Begin shut down the office in 1977. Peres will revive the pre-Begin custom of using the bureau on Fridays, which probably will resuscitate the old ministerial exodus to the coastal plain on Thursday nights.

The Premier certainly has a sentimental attachment to the place. He occupied a room in the building as deputy defence minister from 1959 to 1965, under Ben-Gurion and Levi Eshkol.

BACK IN JERUSALEM, the Prime Minister's office has taken on a new look, mainly thanks to the new government secretary, Yossi Beilin. Dr. Beilin, the former Peres spokesman at party HQ and a Tel Aviv University political scientist, assembled a bright young team before the elections, many of whom are now on the PM's staff.

Beilin is 36, the same age at which Peres became deputy defence minister in 1959. Beilin's just-published book, *Sons in the Shadow of Their Fathers*, deals with the generation clash in Israeli politics.

One of the team members, who planned Peres' "first hundred days" in a pre-election working paper, is Dr. Nimrod Novik, the political adviser. Novik, who was previously

on the staff of Aluf (res.) Aharon (Ariele) Yariv's Strategic Studies Centre, is in charge of coordinating the PM's first visit to President Ronald Reagan next month.

Peres has not yet named a media adviser. But the eventual occupant of that position will have an able assistant already in place, in the person of Baruch Askarov, a Beilin protégé and member of the campaign staff.

As his counter-terrorism adviser, Peres has named Amram Nir, the one-time military correspondent of Israel TV. Nir, who is the son-in-law of Yediot Aharonot bossman Noah Moses, worked for a while at the Peres Labour Party bureau, and has been on the staff of Yariv's Strategic Studies Centre. Meanwhile, the job Nir has his eye on — chief of the Prime Minister's Bureau — has gone to Boaz Appelbaum, a fun-loving former restaurantier who served Peres in the same capacity back at 110 Rehov Hayarkon.

Appelbaum has taken over from Begin's old bureau chief, Yehiel

Kadishai, who still sits in the same building at the Jerusalem Kirya. Kadishai had moved down one floor to run the Begin office, under the arrangement which gives former premiers official facilities. Another holdover from the Likud days is Harry Horwitz, who is still adviser on Diaspora relations.

DEFENCE MINISTER Yitzhak Rabin has brought in David correspondent Nira Lahir to serve as his political liaison. Ministry insiders are waiting to see how the attractive and abrasive Lahir will get on with Nahman Shai, the soft-spoken media counsellor who has stayed on in the post he held under former defence minister Moshe Arens.

But there have been casualties at the Defence Ministry. The most notable departing staff member is Uri Bar-On, an Ariel Sharon appointee, who was Ariel's aide on settlement there and at the Ministry of Agriculture. Bar-On, who was responsible for the "dummy settlements" to which Egypt's Anwar Sadat objected so strongly, may get a job at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, where Sharon is now in command.

SOME PEOPLE have been accusing Rabin of abandoning Labour MK Ora Namir, one of his staunchest supporters over the years. Namir, the former chairman of the Knesset Education Committee, was not invited to the party Rabin and his wife Leah gave to celebrate his becoming minister of defence. I've now heard that, under pressure from party supporters, Rabin has asked Peres to name Namir as deputy minister responsible for the status of women.

GIFT DEPT. When Adiel Amoral became deputy finance minister this week, he got a hearty round of congratulations. He also was presented with a big cigar from former finance minister Yigael Hurvitz.

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR of the Dan Hasharon bus co-op, Benny Gaon, brings back an interesting tidbit from Budapest. Gaon (whose brother is singer Yehoram Gaon) told me that on a recent visit to the Museum of the Hungarian Labour Movement, he entered a room devoted to partisans to discover a photograph of Hanna Szenes. The legendary paratrooper/poetess killed by the Nazis in 1944 is one of Israel's national heroines. But the Hungarian exhibit described her as a

"British paratrooper officer sent by air to Hungary with a group of Yugoslav partisans."

HONOURS LIST. Israel Ambassador to Norway Yehudit Haneber has been presented with the Bundesrepublik's Order of Merit. In making the award, West German ambassador Niels Hansen cited Mrs. Haneber's contributions toward Israel-German relations, during her many years as a senior Interior Ministry official.

FAREWELL. A party at the Jerusalem Hilton this week marked the end of Uwe Carstens' five-year stay as representative of the German labour movement. Carstens is now scheduled for a new assignment in South Africa.

EMBASSY BEAT. Latest rumour is that U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis and his wife Sallie have decided to stay on beyond the self-imposed seven-year limit he set for overseas postings. This week, Lewis took time out from his diplomatic contacts to become an honorary member of the Society for Cultural Values of Yemenite Jews. Wonder if he was initiated to the intricacies of schug?

GUEST LIST: Rabbi Israel Meir Eliezer Shatzman, in charge of community relations for New York Gov. Mario Cuomo, has arrived to attend the inauguration of a JNF forest in his honour.

DIPLOMATIC ROUNDS. The new British ambassador, William Squire, and his wife Sarah, were guests of honour at a get-together party tendered by embassy aide Kieran Prendergast, and by Joan, at their Herzliya home. Mrs. Squire was in Israel for some time in the mid-Seventies, when she was political secretary at the embassy. At the time, Sarah Hutchinson had many friends, and impressed them with her speed in learning Hebrew.

When he presented his credentials to President Chaim Herzog, Squire and the head of state chatted about the battle of Arrabein, in which both served, but on different parts of the front. Incidentally, Squire was held as a British Army officer in 1947, and the two sergeants changed by the 121 were from his unit.

Paul Hare, the U.S. political counsellor, and his wife Debbie Ann Monday night were hosts at this annual Rosh Hashana party for Israeli friends.

A SURPRISING HARMONY

(Continued from Page 5)

There is ample room for voluntary efforts. People can help the nation by increasing their savings efforts. They can stop buying luxury goods and above all buy only made-in-Israel products. Those are things we can all do. I beseech all my fellow citizens to take stock and adopt voluntary measures, for then there will be that much less need of government action. Our economy is in a feverish condition, and it isn't enough to call the physician; the patient must help in order to ensure a cure.

Here the prime minister reiterated his pious hope that the war in Lebanon would end in the coming year "and that many young men will be able to enjoy a quieter life."

Taking the broader view, Premier Peres sees Israel entering the third phase of Zionism, a society based on higher education, science and technology. He explained: "The first phase of Zionism was the conquest of work. For we were not a working people. The second phase was con-

quest of the land, for we were a people without a country. And now phase three — the conquest of science."

In this new stage of the Zionist endeavour that there would be ample room for expanding co-operation between Israel and the Diaspora communities. One of his priorities in the coming year would be the attainment of aliya, he said, contending that the fate of Israel depended on the number of those coming to settle in this country. He appealed to the Jews of the Diaspora: "Yes, I know you may be enjoying better material conditions and be living in greater comfort, but if you're looking for life of drama and interest, then your place is with us. If you want to be part of a great historical enterprise, then come and join us here. After all, Israel is the sum total of all individual members of our society. We do not have much to offer material wealth. We do not live in a friendly environment. We lack water. But we do offer an active involvement in the making of a nation."

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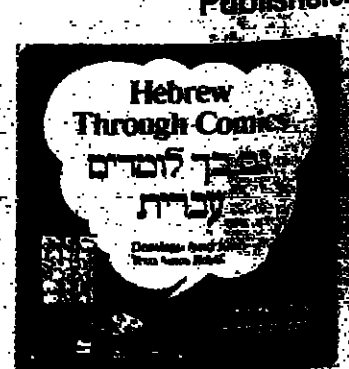
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BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Duff Hart-Davis, a British journalist who helped launch former Soviet defector Oleg Bitov on a lucrative career in journalism, writes an open letter to his 'one-time colleague.' The letter follows Bitov's appearance at a

press conference in Moscow last week after his mysterious disappearance from Britain in mid-August. Bitov, the former cultural editor of the prestigious Soviet journal *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, defected to the

West while he was attending the Venice Film Festival last year, leaving his wife and daughter in the Soviet Union. He then went to live in Britain. At his Moscow press conference, Bitov claimed that he had been

snatched by British intelligence agents in Venice and had then been drugged, beaten and coerced into making anti-Soviet statements. Hart-Davis, who helped Bitov prepare a major series of articles for the

London *Sunday Telegraph* — subsequently published in *The Jerusalem Post* — is convinced that, back in Moscow, Bitov has been forced to lie about his defection and sojourn in the West.

The man who went back to the cold

"I'm afraid you remind me of... the girl who... told such dreadful lies... They made one gasp and stretch one's eyes."

"At your press conference in Moscow you told such dreadful lies that I was staggered. I realize, of course, that you were forced to do this, and so I do not blame you. I have written that I liked you. I still am. But now I am worried about your memory has been destroyed."

"Clearly your colleagues have done some work on you since you returned home: at the press conference you looked exhausted and puffy and 10 years older than when last seen in London. May I therefore remind you of one or two facts about your time in the West which do happen to be true?"

"As I was not in Venice with you last September, I would pass over the crazy details you invented about being hit over the head, drugged, kidnapped and imprisoned in a villa in the Italian mountains — were it not for one inescapable fact. This is that on September 10 you stayed at the Old Fellbridge hotel at East Grinstead under the name of David Locke. The signature is there in the ledger, rather shaky, but recognizably in your handwriting."

"Since everyone knows that you were still in Venice on September 9, there is simply no time in which you could have suffered all the provocations which you describe, and which, according to you, went on for several days."

"Anyway, your claim that you used the name David Locke during your first weeks in England is correct — one of the very few facts woven into the tapestry of lies in an attempt to make the whole story credible. But either you have forgotten, or else you willfully misinterpret, the reason for using a pseudonym."

"You knew perfectly well at the time that it was for your own protection. The authorities here were afraid — rightly, as it now turns out — that the KGB would try to get you back. They therefore furnished you not only with a pseudonym but also with men to protect you in the early stages, with money, clothes and a place to live. They do this for any defector who arrives penniless and (if I may say so) clueless in this country."

"YOU KNEW THIS — and what is more, you were extremely grateful for the protection you received. Many times you told me how impressed you were by the standards of service you were getting. 'Believe me,' you used to say, 'these people

really are professionals.' (I shall never forget how you pronounced that word, in your Russian accent: *professional's*.) There was that incident in a pub, for instance, when you were attacked by a drunk, and two very large young men who had been sitting at the bar suddenly came to your rescue, with profuse apologies for the inconvenience you had suffered."

"Perhaps I can jog your memory best by recalling our own association. We first met at the home of the man you had chosen as your literary agent, Hilary Rubinstein."

"There is no such thing as a literary agent in the Soviet Union, I know; but you very soon cottoned on to the service that Hilary could perform for you. I was called in because he hoped that *The Sunday Telegraph*, for which I work, would buy your story. This we quickly decided to do — and so our partnership began."

"Of all the lies which came out at your recent press conference, the one which I personally find most tiresome is the claim that the articles which you published were written under duress and at the dictation of the security services. Balls, Oleg! As you would say in Russian, 'Yerunda!' Again, let me remind you."

"MOST OF OUR work was done at my home in the country. You would take an early train from Paddington. I would collect you in my car and drive home. Then, when I had equipped you with a mug of black coffee (which needed constant replenishment), we would go up to my study on the first floor and start talking. At least, you would start talking. You talked with incredible stamina, for up to eight hours a day, and by evening my tape recorder would be red-hot."

"Now, being only a humble writer, I am afraid I have never been able to afford one of those amazing phonetic synthesizers which you mentioned at the press conference: machines so crafty that they can simulate a person's voice perfectly, and produce whole speeches apparently made by him, but in fact invented."

"As I say, such equipment is, alas, beyond my means, if indeed it exists at all. What I do have, on the other hand, are simple tapes filled with your narration — hours of them. I cannot claim that they are impressively coherent, for you tend to be a discursive talker, and many a time, with 'By the way...' (a favourite expression), you shoot off at a tangent. Also, you sometimes suddenly say, 'And now please switch off,' when you come to a point that you do not want recorded. Always I did as you asked, so that the tapes are full of abrupt transitions. Even so, they embody a great many of your ideas and personal experiences."

"This, then, was how we worked:



Oleg Bitov at his press conference in Moscow last week.

'In all our collaboration, the strongest psychotropic drug that I managed to get down your throat in any quantity was whisky — of which, I might say, you imbibed a great deal.'

"you talking, I listening and taping. In the middle of the day we would break for lunch, which we had in the kitchen with the family. You were not the perfect guest, for you were so preoccupied with your own problems that you scarcely noticed what you ate or drank, but this I readily forgave you."

"After lunch we would resume our labours and continue until the evening, whereupon, after a drink or two, I would return you to the London train."

"Oh yes: there is one domestic detail that you may recall: the downstairs lavatory, the back loo, which gave you such problems. 'Pull the chain, count two, and let go,' I would call. But still you could not master the old fashioned cistern, and often I had to come to your rescue."

"SOON A PATTERN was established. During the week you would work on drafts of your articles, which you would bring with you on Sunday. You insisted on writing in English, because you could not express yourself freely in Russian. This

was one of your great points: that you felt so crushed and numbered by lifelong censorship in the Soviet Union that you simply could not write the truth in Russian."

"When I saw what material you had available, we agreed that I would write one article about your life and career, and that you would write two major pieces about censorship: propaganda and the suppression of truth in your home country. Taking a leaf out of George Orwell, you would describe how you had worked in the Ministry of Truth. In all our collaboration, the strongest psychotropic drug that I managed to get down your throat in any quantity was whisky — of which, I may say, you imbibed a great deal."

"My role was to edit your articles, to shape and condense them, to make them readable for an English audience. The only pressure I put on you was to include more interesting detail about life in Russia, because often your early drafts were long-winded and boring."

"Far from forcing you to write anything, I went to some lengths to

accommodate your special anxieties. Take the matter of Alexander Chakovsky, editor-in-chief of your own newspaper, the *Literary Gazette*. In conversation you revealed many fascinating details about Chakovsky, who, though professing to be a 'shark of socialism,' unashamedly enjoys Western luxuries."

"I urged you to include a passage about him in one of your articles, but you said that by doing so you might enrage him and so put your family at risk. On the other hand — you suggested — the information would seem

less damaging if it appeared in the piece which I was writing. So that, in the end, was where it was published."

"Naturally you were suspicious of me at first. You did not know who I was, or what my connections might be. But soon you saw that I was what I told you — an individual, unconnected, thank God, with any government department. Far more than this, you came to appreciate that I was an experienced editor and writer, the author of several books of my own."

"Soon a close bond formed between us, because we shared the same pleasure — of employing language so that it meant exactly what we wanted. When your articles were published to critical acclaim, you thanked me handsomely and said how delighted you were to hit upon a colleague who was both sensitive and professional. I do not think you will contradict me if I say we became good friends."

"TO LAUNCH THE articles, you made one more tape, which was sent out for broadcasting by local radio stations. This tape was certainly not cooked up on a synthesizer. If you remember, you recorded the talk at a studio just off Oxford Street, after a rather good lunch; and here, I think, it is worth quoting a couple of your remarks verbatim, because they express so well what you were thinking about the contrast between your life here and in Russia."

"Maybe it (censorship) is the most important subject of the whole life, you know. I had many privileges. I couldn't be unsatisfied with my position, with the results of my work. At the same time, I had no freedom of self-expression — and that freedom is maybe the only one I really need. It is the most important thing for me to be published as I think, as I write."

"Well, Oleg — I went to great trouble to see that you were published as you thought, as you wrote. And now you profess yourself amazed by the censorship which we inflicted on you! What do you mean by saying that when you refused to write anti-Soviet propaganda the security people 'made you leave London and go into the country'?"

"For one thing, what you wrote was extremely damaging; and for another, you never ceased to live in London."

"A lie which must be nailed is that you were not free to move around the country. You were absolutely free, particularly after you had taken

delivery of your own red Toyota. Have you forgotten your early visit to Winchester, whose cathedral you described as the most beautiful in the world? Have you forgotten how you experienced 'a moment of prayer' there, and suddenly 'understood what awe means'?"

"No: you cannot have forgotten. The trouble is that the telling of so many lies breeds doubt, even in me. What am I to think, for instance, of a telephone call I had last week?"

"A man who would not identify himself, but claimed to have had some connection with the British security services, rang from Switzerland to warn me that you were a KGB plant, and you had been sent to England for the purpose of collecting information."

"As it happens, I do not believe this. Neither I nor anyone else who met you here considers you a sufficiently competent or well-organized person to have been used in this way by the KGB. You struck us as altogether too naive and indiscreet, particularly when drunk."

"YOUR FORMER contacts here were not much impressed by the press conference, I am afraid. They could not help noticing that you were continuously prompted with written and spoken advice."

"For whose benefit, they ask, was the show put on? It fooled no one in the West, and it cannot have fooled many people in the Soviet Union; for, by your own account, nobody there believes anything they hear on television or read in the newspapers."

"Now your friends over here are extremely anxious on your behalf. They send their best wishes, but they greatly fear that you will soon fall ill and disappear into some hospital like the psychiatric clinic in Kazan, from which no one ever returns. Certainly you will never again be allowed to travel outside the Soviet Union, and even inside it you must be counted a potential menace, for if you remain at large you will surely start talking sooner or later about how you really found the West. Like Matilda, your life has gone up in flames."

"To your friends — among whom I still count myself — the tragedy is that you have fallen victim to the very monster you did your best to expose: the propaganda machine, the system that cannot stand criticism, the Ministry of Truth."

Your one-time colleague, Duff.

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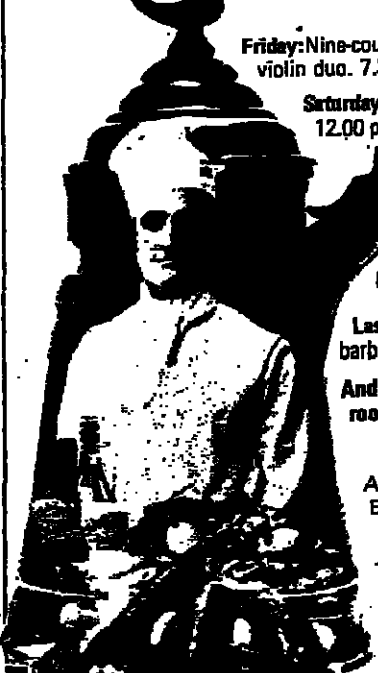
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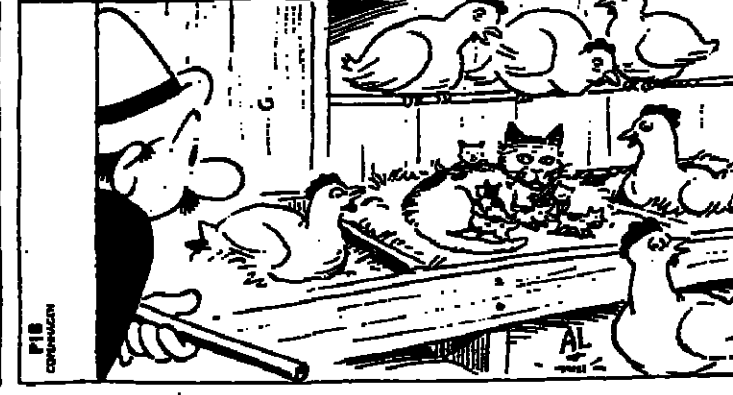
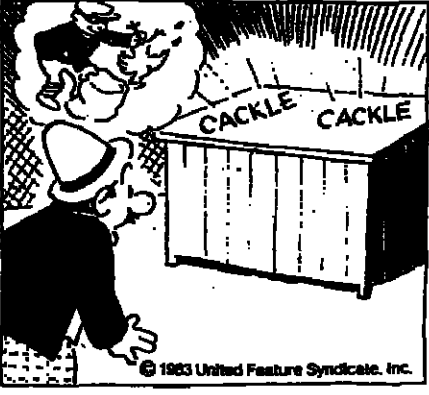
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No obligation! Please let us know about you and other former members of USY. We will contact you only if you so desire. Please let us know that you're here — regardless of your current affiliations.

Shana Tova Umetuka!

Return to: USY Alumni, P.O.B. 7456, Jerusalem, or call and leave information at: 02-226386 or 02-227483.

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* Motza'ei Shabbat Shuva Drasha in English
Rabbi Salomo Riskin: Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die — Saturday, Sept. 29, 8.30 p.m.
* Cuts and Missionaries in Israel — Update
Yoel Ben Avraham of Nahar, Sunday, Sept. 30, 8.30 p.m.

A special welcome to Mr. N.K. Gross, Chairman of the Board of the Orthodox Union and Mrs. Gross, Mr. and Mrs. D. Fend, Mr. and Mrs. Ch. Bendheim, Mr. and Mrs. H. Merkin, Mr. and Mrs. J. Nagel, and other members of the Orthodox Union family who are in Israel for Rosh Hashana.

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ROSH HASHANAH

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5.30 p.m. Evening Services **Wed., Sept. 26, 1984**
6.30 p.m. Rosh Hashana Seder **Thur., Sept. 27, 1984**
10.00 a.m. Morning Services

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Rabbi David Elner

October 2: Yonah: Repentance from the Depths
Rabbi Shalom Gold, Dean, Jerusalem
College for Adults

October 3: Paradox of Repentance
Rabbi Chaim Brovender

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Tomorrow, Thursday, Sept. 27, 10.00 a.m.
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JERUSALEM GREAT SYNAGOGUE, Wed. Mincha 5.15 p.m. Thur. Shabbat 7 a.m. Mincha and Tisha'va 5 p.m. Arvit 5.45 p.m. Fri. Shabbat 7 a.m. Mincha 5.15 p.m. Sat. Shabbat 8 a.m. Mincha and sermon 4.40 p.m. Arvit 6 p.m.

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Baptist Congregation 4 Narkas, West Jerusalem, Saturday services: 9.00 a.m. Hebrew; 10.30 a.m. English. Tel. 22942.

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TWO-IN-ONE CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- It was revealed why the driver had to stop, perhaps (4, 2, 5)
- Girl a king abandoned for love of Paris is enchanting! (7)
- Nothing about a Dickens hero is meant to be funny (7)
- To flavour drink, stuffed a sick in it (5)
- Doing the job he wants — just the ticket! (9)
- Where, for our own good, we're cut out (7)
- Chest one pig in 550 (7)
- Tries to stop the other side fighting (7)
- Traps travellers with them (7)
- Between twelve & twenty youngsters have this name (9)
- Not high flush — anything but! (5)
- Religious backing? (7)
- Time for pupils to learn about the for an insect (7)
- Turner reproductions produced by it (5, 6)

DOWN

- A priest can hold his drink (7)
- We hear, dear, like whipped cream sweet, by the sound of it! (5)
- Engine driver's water or steam (7)
- Frequently shoots the victims of such a plague... (7)
- ... And Ginger destroyed the work done on a plot (9)
- Walked faster than this for a horse (7)
- Puts down the story of another Algeron Blackwood, perhaps (5-6)
- H.Q. to give courage to forces between the banks (5-6)
- Will associate this with it (9)
- Harbour number 18 may have one (7)
- Jersey tree was chopped up (7)
- Travellers waiting to go by post here? (3-4)

'Quickie'

ACROSS

- Service for the dead (7, 4)
- A condiment (7)
- A slow leaching (7)
- Lift up (5)
- A weapon (9)
- Birds (7)
- London district (7)
- Mothers & fathers (7)
- Cried like a young bird (7)
- E.g., publicly offer for sale (9)
- Gone by work (5)
- Performed (7)
- Cringing (7)
- Gave in (11)

DOWN

- Taking one's ease (7)
- To tremble (5)
- Original people (7)
- Concerning Lodge business (7)
- Gas used in welding (9)
- Thames-side town (7)
- Area for buying & selling (6-5)

Yesterday's Solutions

PILOT ESCARGOT
H I I I T R E U
A L A D I N A C C U S E D
R I V E D T H T O
M U S T L U P I N F A I R
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Y M R M A C
O R G A N I S A T I O N A L
U G B I G S S N
T E N T B L A K A O R C A
U G B I G S S N
B E L L O W S E M P T I E S
E E I T R O N E
R U T H L E S S T Y G E R

Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Endon 4 Cement, 9 Recruit, 10 Elver, 11 Errs, 12 Ophelia, 13 Kos, 14 Gize, 15 Nape, 16 Bal, 20 Snapper, 21 Ocho, 24 Antma, 25 Serpent, 26 Lieder, 27 Ochre, DOWN: 1 Earner, 2 Decor, 3 Rout, 5 Elephant, 6 Envelon, 7 Tartan, 8 Athos, 13 Keepsake, 15 Lionise, 17 Aesal, 18 Brush, 19 Fettle, 22 Beech, 23 Arno.

19 Go in sea, swimming, and cramp may produce these (7)
21 Bring in food for some to help others! (5)

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THE JERUSALEM POST

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5745 ARRIVES

base will have a shofar.

In his holiday message to soldiers, Navon said: "It behooves those of us in the military, who are carrying the banner of liberty and security, to serve as an example and paragon in our behaviour and lifestyle. Let weapons remain free of wrongdoing and our camps holy."

In Haifa, Zvi Barshesbet, the country's leading shofar maker, told *The Post* yesterday that for the first time in memory he has been left with more than a dozen unsold rams' horns.

Prices ranged from \$15 to \$50 each, which he asserted were no higher than last year. But the government, the IDF and other public institutions bought no shofarot this year, he said.

Labour and Social Affairs Minister Moshe Katzav yesterday called on employees of the Brinks

SHAMIR

has not yet been discussed in the cabinet."

Asked whether he was disappointed that Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid had not given him a commitment during the Shamir-Meguid meeting on Monday that Egypt would return its ambassador to Israel, Shamir replied: "I was not disappointed. The meeting itself was important as the beginning of a renewal of dialogue between Israel and Egypt."

In response to a question whether he believed that Egypt will withhold its ambassador until Israeli forces leave Lebanon, Shamir said: "We

KISSINGER

are facing several problems between our two countries and the Lebanese issue must be seen in the larger context, not as a separate issue."

Shamir said he had not held any discussions since arriving in New York on the issue of withdrawing the Israeli Defence Forces from Southern Lebanon. He said his interview with *The New York Times* published Sunday, in which he said Israel would like to see the U.S. play an intermediary role between Israel and Syria, was "a matter of raising some ideas."

Shamir said that many of the

DOWNPLAY

Jerusalem Post that after Urquhart's departure from the area last Friday, Israel's positions were conveyed to the highest policymaking echelons in Damascus via the Swedish commander of the UN force in the Golan Heights Major General Carl Gustaf Stahl.

Urquhart met with Peres, Rabin and Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir and then dispatched his top aide, Jean-Claude Aimee, to brief the Syrians through Stahl.

Despite Murphy's care to keep his efforts low key and to dampen speculation, Israeli observers were heartened by his statement yesterday

COPTER CRASH

whose names were published took place yesterday.

Efrati, the helicopter's co-pilot, was buried in the Mount Olives Cemetery military section in Jerusalem. Efrati, who was the Rosh Ha'ayin's first and only pilot, was brought to rest by a big crowd that included his family, friends, officers and many Rosh Ha'ayin residents. He was one of 12 children. One of his brothers, Ya'acov, was also a participant in the exercise in which the helicopter crashed, and was among those helping to evacuate the wounded after the crash.

Bechar was buried in the military

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General

Haifa Yoga, Tuesday evening, 19.30. Call Judy, 816672.

armoured car service to stop sanctions that have prevented the distribution of National Insurance Institute payments before Rosh Hashana.

The Prisons Service this year awarded many prisoners a four-day holiday leave for Rosh Hashana, longer than has been given in past years.

Actor Haim Banai, who plays Albert Perot (the fruit man) on Israel Television's public-service broadcasts will, with Fruit Council volunteers today present soldiers at central hitchhiking intersections with apples-in-honey, one of the traditional Rosh Hashana delicacies, in a project organized by the council.

An apple in honey will also be given to every driver who gives a soldier a ride.

Magen David Adom is preparing for the holiday by putting extra ambulances, medics and volunteers throughout the country on shift.

On Capitol Hill yesterday, the House Ways and Means Committee was expected to give final authorization to the proposed creation of a U.S.-Israel free-trade area.

Reagan administration officials will then have to continue negotiations with their Israeli counterparts on resolving the final issues in the free-trade-area talks. They are hoping that special U.S. trade representative Bill Brock will be able to fly to Israel in mid-October to sign the agreement with Minister of Industry and Trade Ariel Sharon.

The House was also expected last night to pass a stop-gap continuing resolution appropriating \$2.6 billion in economic and military grants for Israel in the pending fiscal year foreign aid programme.

There is reportedly a feeling among U.S. political analysts that anything that would remind voters of Lebanon, with all its tragic overtones for Americans, could only be harmful to Reagan.

This seemed to signal that the Reagan "administration" is indeed prepared to launch itself into a Lebanon mediation effort, even though electoral wisdom might counsel a hands-off approach on anything to do with Lebanon until after the U.S. presidential election in November.

section of the Holon Cemetery. He was his parents' youngest son, had studied mechanics in high school and was an excellent sportsman. His parents had been especially reluctant to accept word of his death since they knew that there was another soldier of the same name in his unit.

Yitzhak, the pilot, was buried in the military section of the Haifa Cemetery. His coffin was carried by six air force captains, all of them pilots, and many of his IDF comrades attended the funeral. He leaves parents, a brother and two sisters.

Assiyag, who was promoted to sergeant major on his death, was buried in Dimona. Details of his funeral were not available.

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ALMOST ELEVEN years ago, immediately after the Yom Kippur War, I received a letter from a world-renowned American Orientalist, in which he said that Israel "must hold out for 15 years, when the power of Arab oil in world politics will mean very little." At the time, the oil-producing Arab states were threatening the world with a boycott and the newly-established Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) dominated by the Arabs, was raising its prices of oil so fast and to such a height, that for a while they were a danger to the economies of the Western industrial countries. In the 10 years between 1973 and 1983, the price of oil was multiplied almost tenfold (from \$3.5 a barrel to about \$35). Floods of money surged into the bank accounts of Middle East oil producers, who used their vast reserves in American and European banks to intimidate the Western countries in case they showed any sign of refusing to conform with the Arab demand to exert pressure on Israel.

The Arab oil producers miscalculated their power. The Western and industrialized countries, although for a while they seemed to succumb to Arab threats, reacted by developing substitutes for oil as a major source of energy and by prospecting for and finding hitherto unknown oilfields right outside the Middle East.

The prophecy of the American Orientalist is thus coming true: Arab oil is no longer an important factor in world politics. Clear proof of this quiet yet revolutionary development

in the Middle East political scene was supplied by Operation Peace for Galilee. During the operation, in 1982, the Arab oil producers did not dare to even flash the oil weapon, nor have they done so since.

On the eve of the New Year, when one assesses the situation in the Middle East, one must put the complete disappearance of the threat of the Arab oil boycott, and the crippling of the bargaining power of the oil producers, high on the list of major developments.

THE PROCESS is closely connected with the Gulf War between Iraq and Iran. This war, which can end only after the death of either Ayatollah Khomeini or Iraq's president Saddam Hussein, has profoundly disrupted the economies of some of the richest oil-producing Arab countries. It was not only the two countries directly involved in the war that suffered a drastic cut in their oil production and marketing as a result of the hostilities and the attacks on each other's oil installations and tankers; countries in the region not directly involved, such as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, were badly affected by it.

Saudi Arabia is footing almost the entire bill for the Iraqi war effort, while increasing its own military expenditure for fear of the future. As a result, Saudi Arabia has had a very large budget deficit for the last two years, which it has to cover from its reserves.

The Gulf War has disproved an axiom of Western politics. The axiom is that the energy resources of

Middle East labyrinth

By MOSHE SHARON

the Gulf are constantly threatened by the Soviet Union. The Soviets have not even attempted to exploit the war in order to penetrate the Gulf. Moreover, they are being very careful not to get involved in the war beyond some old commitments to Iraq. The threat to Gulf oil, it is now clear, is presented by the local countries, their local wars and political instability, far more than by the external power of the Soviets.

THIS LEADS US to an evaluation of the Soviet factor in the region. Again contrary to the widely-accepted notion, I believe that during the last five years the Soviet involvement in the region has been constantly diminishing. It has also been diminishing significantly in Africa. And the best proof of this is the agreements reached between the "Marxist" regime in Mozambique and South Africa, as well as the pacification of Angola. In the war over the latter, the Soviets were completely let down by their Cuban proxy.

In the Middle East, the Soviets have been left with only one ally or dependent: Syria. Soviet relations

with the rest of the Arab countries. Libya and Algeria included, have been lately characterized by their very low key.

The fact that the Russians virtually omitted to react to the American involvement in Lebanon in 1982-83 is a highly significant element in the low-key Soviet presence in our area. For after all, had the Americans wanted, they had a golden opportunity to establish a base in the eastern Mediterranean once Beirut was handed over to them by Israel towards the end of 1982.

Once can think of several reasons for the Russian withdrawal from the region.

First, the ever-increasing involvement in the Afghan war, which the Soviets can hardly hope to win. The war is not only costing them a great deal in lives and equipment, but also has a very disturbing influence on the Soviet Moslem communities neighbouring on Afghanistan. The fact that the Soviet government is fighting fellow-Moslems in a neighbouring country can no longer be concealed, and it must be one of the causes of the unrest among Soviet

Moslems. One has to remember that the Islamic revival which has spread all over the Moslem world since 1979 has influenced the Soviet Moslems too, and must have deepened their enduring resentment of the Soviet regime, and their sympathy for the Afghan Moslem rebels.

Secondly, the Soviets must have come to the conclusion that the Arab countries are a bottomless barrel as far as investments in the Arab war machine are concerned. Neither their military nor their economic investments in some of the key Arab countries have yielded any tangible results for the Soviets.

Thirdly, the Soviets must have changed their priorities: in their global calculations, Western Europe has lately been gaining precedence over the Middle East. This does not mean that the Middle East is now regarded as unimportant in overall Soviet strategy. It has an extremely important place in their military and political calculations as a world power. It is clear, however, in surveying the current Middle East scene, that the Soviet presence has definitely diminished.

WITH REGARD TO the relations between Israel and the Arab countries, no basic change has occurred. Contrary to the popular view, these relations have very little to do with the territories held by Israel; they are connected far more with the great problem that faces the Arab countries, which is the legitimization of the State of Israel.

Even Egypt has had second thoughts about whether she did not go too far in accepting Israel as a

political entity in the area. The problem of Israeli legitimacy has become even more acute during the five years of the Islamic revival.

The legitimacy of Israel has become a profound theological problem that is very difficult to come to terms with. According to Islam, the Jews may live under Islamic rule; but they may not rule over Moslems and may certainly not possess a state of their own in territory which is regarded as Moslem territory. The existence of the State of Israel challenges these two Islamic principles, and one can hardly see any other Arab leader or Arab government daring to offer legitimacy to the Jewish state, even if Israel were prepared to withdraw immediately from all the territories occupied in 1967.

The present situation is bound to continue because, paradoxically, it is the most convenient situation possible for most of the Arab countries. They can say that they are engaged in a holy war against Israel, and at the same time carry on their life as usual.

Jordan, for instance, is far from being interested in entering into negotiations with Israel. Between Jordan and Israel there is *de facto* peace; any change involving Jordanian recognition of Israel, would mean trouble from most of the Arab countries. It is hardly likely that Hussein will jeopardize the future of the Hashemite kingdom for the very dubious prize of portions of the West Bank.

In general, Arab-Israeli relations are greatly influenced by inter-Arab

relations, and it is not to be denied that in the last few years, the Arabs have been busy mainly with themselves.

In North Africa, the Libyan-Egyptian-Sudanese triangle is extremely tense, and the tension has spread westward since the only agreement between Libya and Morocco. Nearer to us, Syria continues with its anti-Israeli activity; Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States are busy with the Gulf War. Israel remains the very necessary objective for at least superficial "Arab Unity." It is the enemy of them all, as well as the enemy of Islam.

I have not mentioned the PLO, because after Operation Peace for Galilee, PLO influence on the Arab political scene has diminished considerably. It is now broken up into at least four large splinter groups, each guided by one or more Arab countries. It has lost two major components of its previous power — independence of decision and independence of action.

In the future, Israel policy vis-à-vis the Arab world will have to be based on an attempt to reach some sort of working agreements with Arab countries and responsible governments.

A change of atmosphere in inter-Arab relations is vital before any such agreements can even be envisaged.

Professor Sharon teaches history of the Islamic countries at the Hebrew University.

EACH OF THE MINISTERS "without portfolio" in the bloated newly formed government will probably be prepared to admit (provided his name is not published) that 15 or 16 ministries would be ample for Israel's needs. Nor can anybody deny that, at a generous estimate, no more than two or three of the ministries require a "deputy minister" — that wraith-like figure who hovers uncertainly, desperately seeking a foothold, between the minister and the director-general.

Had the Labour and the Likud leaders been single-minded, and determined enough, they could have formed an economical, trim government, reflecting austerity and radiating promise of efficiency. The inflation and paunchiness of their creation are the direct consequence of nothing but considerations of patronage within their own parties and their pandering to the small parties — which did not have to be included in the broad coalition. The result is a substantial waste of money — and enough manpower for two governments.

This, however, is the reality to which the combined labours of the two major parties gave birth, and criticism will not undo it. Yet it is a reality that should be exploited: Suitable employment should be found for at least some of the unportfolios, largely unemployed, members of the government.

IT SO HAPPENS that there are areas of historic neglect in the administration of Israel's affairs. Some of

them are, no doubt, not visible to the naked eye.

Some raise problems which, after being given the grace of lip-service, have habitually been swept under the carpet or dismissed as acts of God or accidents of Nature. Yet others are inhibited by cows too sacred to be mentioned.

A few years ago a member of the Likud government who had been designated minister without portfolio confessed that he found himself without occupation, and he had been casting around for a sphere of action where he could do a useful job. His research had led him to the discovery that the area most in need of immediate and comprehensive attention was that of the incessant propaganda campaign being waged throughout the world against Israel.

He had come to the conclusion that it was essential to set up a separate ministry which alone, with adequate machinery, could hope to cope with the gigantic challenge posed by the Arab and pro-Arab anti-Israel and anti-Semitic worldwide propaganda onslaught.

He knew that, after years of observation and study of the problem, and indeed with the help of advice from veteran toilers in the field in the United States, I had prepared a detailed plan for the structures and operation of such a ministry. At his request I gave him the plan's essential elements. One of them predicated a high measure of cooperation, at predicated levels, with the Jewish organizations in the

Countering propaganda

By SHMUEL KATZ

U.S. and elsewhere. Another element of the plan was its low cost despite its projected wide field of activity.

The minister did take the matter further but, like earlier efforts to deal with the problem, his initiative bore no fruit. Like them, it evidently foundered on the rock of opposition of the jealous mandarins of the Foreign Ministry.

SOON THEREAFTER came the war in Lebanon — accompanied by the horrendous campaign of lies and incitement waged against Israel by large sections of the Western media — most effectively on television. That campaign engendered a voluminous literature of refutation and protest against the media in the U.S.

The articles and pamphlets — and a video film demonstrating visually the distortion and mendacities in the coverage of the war by one of the television networks — undoubtedly did much to reassure those friends of Israel who had been shaken and

confused during the war.

Most of this counteraction, however, was the fruit of independent initiative by concerned Americans, writers like Norman Podhoretz, Martin Peretz or Joshua Muravchik or (as in the case of the film) of a pro-Israel organization — Americans for a Safe Israel; and almost all of it naturally came only after the war was over.

Never were the inadequacies of Israel's organs of response more rudely exposed than during the war in Lebanon. Never were the friends of Israel, confronted daily by the vicious fabrications of journalists "on the spot," rendered so helpless by the absence of ammunition for instant rebuttal.

Last year, at the annual "Dialogue" in Jerusalem, organized by the American Jewish Congress, a heartrending vision of that helplessness emerged from the description given by A.J.C. president, Howard Squadron, who was willy-nilly com-

pelled to point to the glaring shortcomings of Israel's information services. His colleague, Carl Spielvogel (a leading public relations expert in the U.S.) propounded the inescapable conclusion:

"I would urge the creation of a cabinet post dedicated exclusively to the communication and interpretation of Israeli policy. The appropriate minister would have to be supported by a staff of Israeli professionals, trained in the contemporary skills of communication. It is no longer enough to be right. You must explain why you are right."

"Almost everyone accepts the need for war colleges. Would it not make sense to have a similar college in Israel dedicated to training public affairs specialists who would develop what-if strategies and scenarios for a wide range of contingencies?"

Mr. Spielvogel thus touched on the crux of the problem — the evident failure of successive Israeli governments to grasp the simple theme: that Israel is confronted in the West not by hostile criticism but by a mass-generated, propaganda-driven machine with long-range objectives, operating at every level of society.

Israeli governments have evidently not come to grips also with the nature of the war. It is not designed to achieve a change in this or the other policy of the Israeli government. Its aim is to put an end to the Zionist entity, to delegitimize Israel — by the assertion, endlessly repeated, that the Jewish people has no right to Palestine, and the Jewish

State has no right to exist at all, that the land is Arab territory usurped by the Zionists with the aid of the imperialists.

This propaganda is a powerful auxiliary to the aim of the physical elimination of Israel. It provides the infrastructure of justification in the mind of a brain-washed public for the launching of a future war to achieve that unchanging annihilatory purpose.

Moreover, successive Israeli governments have failed to face the fact that next to the hostility of the Arabs and their supporters, the most serious enemy we have is the widespread ignorance within the Jewish communities in the Diaspora.

Failing timely education both on the values of Judaism and on the grandeur, and the justice, of the Jewish national rebirth — as well as on the absolute nature of the Arab hoax on Palestine — many Jews, and especially young Jews at the universities, may be successfully brainwashed, by the barrage of propaganda with which they are assailed.

Nobody who has studied the nature and extent of the anti-Israeli campaign, and the many factors potentially working in Israel's favour, will suggest that that campaign cannot be defeated. Only — for that you need, first of all a *hasbara* "war office" dedicated to that single purpose.

IN THE PAST, Labour, it is true, has demonstrated its understanding that a separate ministry is desirable

for handling Israel's information needs abroad. Once upon a time indeed Shimon Peres was appointed, minister of information. Later Aharon Yaviv served briefly in the same capacity.

In each case, though, the Labour's grasp of the problem was not sufficiently strong, and the Foreign Ministry triumphantly blocked the development of the ministry. Before the 1981 election it was revealed that Labour again intended, if it won, to set up an information ministry and it was understood that Chaim Herzog was the likely candidate for heading it.

It was a grievous error not to include the establishment of such a ministry in the agreement for a national unity government. It is an error, however, that can still be corrected.

Why should Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir not strike out boldly, exert their full authority and invite one of the unemployed or under-employed ministers to spend the next three or four months making a survey of the existing *hasbara* machinery in the Foreign Ministry, in other government offices, and abroad. He would, in addition, consult Jewish leaders in the Diaspora and activists engaged over the years in the *hasbara* for Zionism and for Israel — and produce a plan for a ministry which will be able moreover to mobilize tremendous resources within the Jewish people, and indeed outside it, to fight Israel's battle as it should be fought.

THE FORMATION of a national unity government by Labour and the Likud has its echo in a tragic event in American political history. I am referring to the so-called "Compromise of 1876."

If the consequences of the agreement reached at the King David Hotel parallel those of the deal made in Washington's Wormley's Hotel more than a century ago, then we are in for a difficult future indeed.

By 1876, the Republican Party had been in power for four consecutive terms, 16 full years. The second half of that period, the Grant Administration, was rife with corruption. The Democrats, whose standard bearer in 1876 was to be Samuel Tilden, were certain of victory.

The election itself had its parallels with the Israeli election of 1984. The Democrats failed to score a convincing victory, but neither did the Republicans. Tilden had won the popular vote, but Republican control of Southern state governments ensured

that the Democrats would fail to win the Electoral College.

The result was a deadlock. The deadlock was as serious and prolonged as that faced by Israeli politicians in 1984. And the Democrats and Republicans, like Labour and the Likud, were compelled to deal.

The deal that they made was simple enough. The Republicans, who had lost the popular vote, would get their man — Ohio governor Rutherford B. Hayes — into the White House. In exchange, they promised to withdraw all remaining Federal troops from the South.

The results for the South were marked. The era of reconstruction ended. Southern blacks, who for several years had been voting, serving in state legislatures and Congress, were deprived everywhere of the vote.

Jim Crow legislation, that uniquely American version of apartheid, was passed throughout the South. White terrorist bands, including the

Washington echo

By ERIC LEE

Ku Klux Klan, carried on a reign of terror which successfully forced blacks back into a situation no better than slavery.

The tragedy however, was not confined to the South. Above all the "Compromise of 76" legitimized an alliance which dominated American politics for decades thereafter — the coalition of Northern big business Republicans and the southern Democrats. The Republican-Democratic coalition ran American politics without serious challenge

until Franklin Roosevelt's 1932 presidential victory. Their rule was not thoroughly broken until the victories of the civil rights movement in the early 1960s.

For 60 years the U.S. suffered from the domination of this most unholy of alliances. It lagged behind every advanced country in enacting progressive social legislation, such as workers' compensation, health insurance, unemployment insurance, and social security.

It remained unique among West-

ern nations in excluding a significant portion of its male population — Southern blacks — from the elementary right of voting. America became the only industrial nation without a social democratic party, and with a weak, divided trade union movement.

The radical reconstructionist wing of the Republican party, a proto-socialist faction which had promised "40 acres and a mule" to freed slaves, had been deeply admired by Karl Marx and the European socialists. But they faded away, trapped inside a Republican party eager to retain national power.

THERE ARE lessons in this history to be learnt by the Israeli left. They are the lessons it must learn if the government of the "Compromise of 84" is not to have the long-run tragic effects that the 1876 deal produced for the U.S.

That country eventually recovered from the decades of

Republican-Southern Democratic rule. It did so by the creation of a broad-based coalition, the New Deal coalition, which was, in effect, the first new political party to affect American politics since the Civil War. That coalition had two key elements which contributed to its success.

First, it was multi-racial. Blacks were broken, once and for all, from the hold of the Republican Party. They were united with white liberals in a single party in which their own concerns were a major part of the programme.

Second, it was based on the working class. The new industrial unions of the 1930s played a vital role in tearing working class votes away from the old party machines and created what socialist writer Michael Harrington has called America's "invisible social democratic movement."

If the Israeli left is to achieve its goals, it must also strive to create a

party like that of the New Deal Democrats in the U.S. It is vital that that party have a Jewish-Arab character, and the key to that is to make the issue of Israeli-Palestinian peace and the issue of equal rights for Israeli Arabs a vital and central plank in its programme. And it is vital that the new party go far beyond the middle class support currently given to parties like the Citizen's Rights Movement, and reach deep into the base of the Israeli working class.

On both these issues, Mapam has had greater success than the other parties on the left in the past. For that reason and others, it will stand at the very centre of the creation of the independent party of the democratic left so vitally needed in the wake of the "Compromise of 84."

Eric Lee, a member of Kibbutz Ed Dor, edits the democratic socialist quarterly, The New International Review.

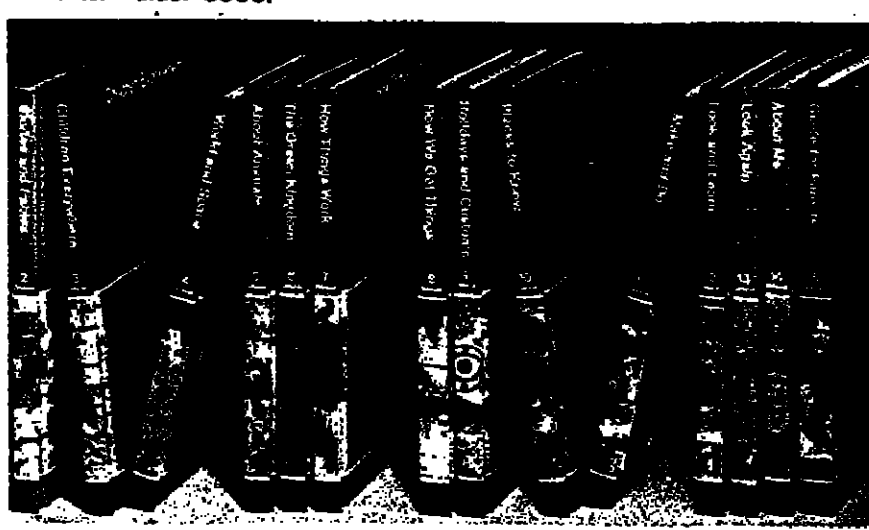
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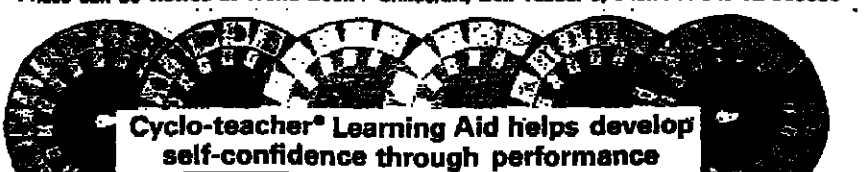
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The tyranny of the majority

By SHULAMIT ALONI

"Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil." Exodus 23:2.

ONLY IN MONARCHIES or absolute dictatorships do rulers' wishes become law as soon as they are uttered. Under every other system of government, all are bound by the rule of law. There are good laws and bad laws; there are laws that give some groups more rights than others; but from the moment there are laws, all, including those who govern, are bound by them.

The law, fixed and published, is the formal structure that frames a more or less ordered human society in which everyone knows, or should know, what is permissible and what is forbidden, what is punishable and what may be indemnified. This has been the way of the world since the dawn of organized human culture.

When Ahab, king of Israel, wanted the vineyard of the Jezreelite Naboth for himself, he knew he could not take it by royal decree. He offered Naboth a substantial remuneration for it: "Give me thy vineyard... and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it, or if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money."

Naboth refused, citing the law of the land on his side: "The Lord forbid it me that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee."

Ahab understood there was nothing he could do and went back to his palace angry and sullen, but would not protest Naboth's right to refuse. Ahab's wife, Jezebel, who came from a different culture — an absolute monarchy in which the king lorded over the country — sneered at her husband and promised to secure the vineyard for him.

But she, too, understood there was no bending the law, and that the king, too, was bound by it. She devised a plot, brought convincing witnesses against Naboth, and took care they would accuse him of betraying the king and thus breaking the law. He was sentenced and stoned to death, and the kingdom thus lawfully inherited his vineyard.

WHEN I RECOUNTED this tale from the Knesset podium in protest against the government's acting as though it were an absolute monarch and changing laws to suit its whims, a coalition member said to me in all innocence, "Better change the laws than kill people." It did not occur to him that it would be better to avoid taking Naboth's vineyard away from him, as he is its rightful owner.

That response of the MK, who in the past held high-ranking administrative positions, is characteristic of the doings of Israel's governments and of legislative patterns in the Knesset. Conspiring witnesses do not testify for us, nor do we kill. But neither does the vineyard stay in the hands of its lawful owners. We legislate new laws as the government has need for them, to suit factional interests dictated by coalition or other pressure groups, or to satisfy personal or other passing exigencies, with the Knesset serving as a rubber stamp, and its majority assured in advance through coalition discipline.

This method was not invented by the Likud. It has been conducted ever since it was decided in 1949 not to formulate a written constitution — a document which would have served the objectives stated in the Declaration of Independence. Likud rule speeded this process, while exhibiting disregard for democratic and universal principles, and the Alignment intends to use precedents set by Likud governments for its own purposes. First steps in this direction were already taken with the very opening sessions of the 11th Knesset.

IF WE ARE to examine the detours we have made from the path of proper democracy so as to understand what a bad course we have taken, it is necessary to recall the objectives of the State of Israel as they were expressed upon its establishment.

The Declaration of Independence, which the Supreme Court has determined is our collective credo, summarizes the ideas of our national liberation movement since the rise of political Zionism. It is not a coincidence that the first Zionist Congress as well as Zionist thinker Theodor Herzl are invoked in the Declaration. After a historical review and instructions for the election of a founding committee meant to formulate a constitution, comes the section specifying the central principles for the state's constitution; principles which it is our duty to recall and reiterate in these days, when racism and demands for theocratic rule run amok. "The State of Israel must be open to Jewish immigration and the in-gathering of the Diaspora; it will be based on the principles of freedom, justice and peace envisioned by Israel's prophets; it will maintain absolute social and political equality rights for all its citizens without regard for differences of religion, race or sex; it will ensure freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture, and it will safeguard the holy places of all religions."

Every one of these clauses demands analysis and reiteration. People today forget that Israel's prophets are not Israel's priests and poets. They forget that the prophet saw Beit-El and Gilgal as sources of sin and wrongdoing; that the prophets said "It is kindness I demand, not sacrifice."

Our schools no longer teach that the prophets' ethics are an important primary basis for the humanist identity of Western, Christian culture. Nowadays it is fashionable in our country to disdain the universal humanist ethic as alien, and Hellenistic, to justify, in the name of

a return to our roots, religious coercion and rabbinic rule, whether it is in the style of the National Religious Party, Shas, Agudat Yisrael or Gush Emunim and Jewish terror.

The declaration, which officially remains our collective credo promises to protect the holy places of all religions. This means the mosque in the Machpela Cave in Hebron (the Tomb of the Patriarchs) as well as the Moslem shrines on the Temple Mount. There are some, mostly party activists and politicians, who claim that the declaration's wording was meant only for the ears of other nations and the UN, so that these would recognize Israel. This is not so.

The first government's Guidelines, which were presented to the Knesset on March 8, 1949 and approved by it on the 11th of the same month, included the following remarks in the second chapter, under the heading, "Freedom, Equality and Democracy": "The law, which will form the basis of the democratic and republican government in the State of Israel, will ensure complete equality of rights for all its citizens regardless of religion, race and nationality; freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture will be guaranteed; there will be full and perfect equality for women — in rights and duties, political life, social and economic life, and throughout the legal system. Freedom of assembly and of written and spoken expression will be maintained, while preserving the nation's security and independence and with respect for individual rights. Elections to all state institutions, municipalities and other elected authorities will be held by general and equal franchise, without regard to sex, religion, race or nationality. The state will supply the public religious needs of its residents but will not concern itself with religious matters."

These democratic and human principles were declared over and over again, but were not written into the law. Israel's democracy receives much empty praise, while the principles it is based on — principles that form the foundation of democracy — are increasingly undermined. The rationalization for this bewilders naive minds: "The majority wants it, the majority approved. Therefore, all that we have decided and transformed and negated and awarded is both legal and democratic, and by the by, also just." Legal? Perhaps so. Within the present system, most deviations written into the law are legal. Democratic and just? That begs examination.

WHOEVER ARGUES that democracy is expressed by majority rule and that whatever the majority wants is democratic, denies the system any philosophical and moral content and value. Whoever argues that the decision to deny women in the settlement Emanuel the right to vote was democratic, because it was arrived at by majority vote, is talking about the tyranny of the majority, not about democracy. Whoever argues that Knesset majority decisions to deny women the right to control their own bodies, to sit as judges in family-affairs courts, to membership in religious councils, etc., are democratic, is talking about the form of democracy, not its essence. Whoever claims that the legislation stipulating that child allowances be given according to the father's or another relative's military service, or according to the nearest relative's being an observant Jew, and not according to the number of children in the home, does not understand what democracy is about.

The formal, mechanical approach which sees majority and minority as the rightful determinants of democracy is the very approach that brought the arch-murderer Hitler and his thugs democratically into power. Mussolini rose to power democratically, too, and so did many other tyrants throughout Europe between the two world wars.

In opposition to totalitarian conceptions — such as the religions, which see the duty of worshipping the Creator according to the directions as the fundamental principle of human existence, or the nationalistic, seeing the nation, the ethnic group, the state and its needs as the main principle, or the workers' totalitarianism, which views class as the supreme value for which mankind may be directed and even sacrificed — in democracy, the person, his or her integrity, freedom and rights determine the basis of the system. A person is free. All persons are born free and equal in value and rights.

The state and its legal system are a tool meant to ensure its residents' well-being, development, progress and security from want and other fears. It is also the tool meant to balance the private person's freedom within the limits that social existence places on those freedoms. This is because human beings, besides being naturally free, are social beings who reach their highest development and achievements when living together.

Roadsigns are a perfect example of the limits to be obeyed by people in a society. The limitations they impose on road users preserve a balance between the individual's freedom to travel towards his destination and the limits imposed by the presence of many others travelling in many other directions at the

same time. On the other hand, a road sign that says that on Sundays only those born in Morocco may drive, and on Tuesdays only blue-eyed people may and women may drive only towards the supermarket and from there back to the kitchen, would be undemocratic and unjust — even if all 120 members of Knesset voted for them.

These are lighthearted examples. But we have several laws of this kind, and how heavy hearted should we be! One would have thought that after the historical experience of the Crusades and the Inquisition, after World War II, with its extermination camps and gas ovens built in the name of the national-tribal pretences of fascism and national-socialism, after the USSR's gulags, in which masses were imprisoned in the name of class struggle, nations, peoples and rulers should have learned that there is no principle and no ideology in whose name it is permissible to sacrifice people's freedom, rights, thought and creative force, much less lives; that such sacrifices may be made only for the sake of life itself. (Therefore, the Israel Defence Forces, and not Occupation Army, or Holy Army, or any other name.)

The notion of the value of the individual, of his or her integrity and freedom, as a basis for social existence does not originate only from Aristotle, the rationalistic West and the French Revolution. The Midrash asks: Why did the Holy One, blessed be He, create man alone, Adam and Eve, male and female, and blessed them and called them mankind — and

did not create them in their peoples, languages and races? To show that all human beings are the children of the first pair. And since the first pair was created in God's image, all human beings are created in God's image and all are equal. (And a good teacher would add: equal in rights and having the right of equal opportunity.) Another Midrash says that man was created alone to show that the entire world was created for every individual.

Today we know that no true democracy can exist where a constitution does not make explicit the fundamental human rights, rights that are inalienable. Whoever says it is democratic if a Knesset majority decides that the laws of the Torah are the laws of the land and the rabbis its judges, and that whoever violates religious law must be punished like a criminal is speaking nonsense. If there were only one man who would rather not obey ritual duties and who denies the mystical authority of the deity — it is his right to think so and our duty to permit him.

If the individual, the masses, the regime, the police and the judiciary are to know when to follow the majority and when this is forbidden, since it constitutes "following a multitude to do evil," there must be a clear, public, normative code of what is allowed and what is not, what is right and what is wrong; a code of basic, inalienable rights. A code of restraints and balances that puts limits on the government's legislative powers, even if the latter is

supported by 100 out of 120 Knesset members.

In Israel there is no such code. There is no Charter of the Basic Rights of Man written into the law and known to all. There is discrimination on the grounds of ethnic origin, religion, nationality and sex. There is no freedom of conscience or freedom of religion. There is ugly discrimination against women, barring them from legal, as well as social and political rights. There is an annulment of the individual's value, of the importance of individual happiness, well-being and rights in the name of land, blood, nation and God. There is institutionalized disregard for the investigative, examining mind that thinks and creates, and at the same time there is devotion to superstition, stone and wooden idols, and to the struggle to rebuild the Temple and to return to sacrificial ritual. There is an estrangement from the prophets' ethics, and on the other hand an institutionalizing of the priests in their greed, the sons of Eli, Hofni and Pinhas, who for-keep for themselves every juicy piece off the public plate.

For seven years we had an education minister of theirs, who was busy indoctrinating ritual ceremony and myth instead of furthering science, research and artistic endeavour. An education minister who was afraid of the Hebrew acronym for last year, 5744, the letters Tashmad, because they spelled "destruction" — and who in his enlightened wisdom suggested the letters be rearranged to Sham-Dat (which means: there is

religion there). In other words, it is on the strength of religion and the Lord that Israel would be saved from Tashmad's "terrors."

TASHMAD is over. With the uncovering of the Jewish terror underground, the favourite sons of former minister Zevulun Hammer and the rest of the NRP, perhaps the fire of self-important religiosity will be cooled by more enlightened Jewish thought, and with the aid of the legal system.

The racist phenomena in Upper Nazareth and Meir Kahane in the Knesset and outside it have shaken up even some fanatic nationalist-territorialists. A new government has been established upon the beginning of the year Tashma. There is no reason to expect that it will restore to us the principles of the collective credo. It is doubtful if it has the strength and will to tame the passions and allow the house of representatives, the Knesset, to function as sovereign representative of the people and to take steps towards the legislation of a constitution. Or finally to legislate a Human Rights Law and thereby ensure that Israel will be more than a democracy in name only.

With all this, I hope that in the new year this government will moderate the nationalistic, religious, priestly spirit in our midst; will put an end to fanatic messianism and contaminated racism that has raised its head here; and will remember that 1985 is the International Women's Year, culminating the decade for the advancement of women, and that Israel has gone shamefully backwards in this sphere in the past 10 years. And there is some hope for the renewal of education towards

democracy, open-mindedness, the valuing of every person, and that the Declaration of Independence will be hung in every classroom and children will study it over and over, and values such as freedom, equality and fraternity will no longer be considered gentle, western values worthy only of the "Hellenized," those who are without Jewish awareness. Perhaps "peace" will again become the longed-for and rational goal, for which a great deal may be sacrificed; perhaps avoidable ways will be rejected and kings will no longer be crowned in our city squares.

Only if and when the age of wisdom replaces that of myths and religious nationalism will we be able to hold an open public struggle for Israel's democracy, for democracy with true democratic values.

But if this huge, cumbersome government we have ignores this question and occupies itself with satisfying factional interests and succumbing to group pressures, or if it paralyzes the Knesset and continues the myth of the "Chosen People" and "the people that dwells alone," we will fast approach integrating ourselves with the regions and the third world's regimes, and the next generation, or the one after that, will have to begin the struggle all over again under more severe conditions and in alienation from the Jewish world and the enlightened world altogether.

This does not have to happen, of course. Labour Party heads may, if they choose, recall the platform on which they ran for the 11th Knesset and try to implement it, despite having mocked it in a moment of weakness before Shas's anti-democratic leaders. And if Labour leaders do take their earlier words seriously, the weakness and shame into which Israel has sunk may be forgotten. Both the state and its inhabitants will be the better for it.

The writer is a Knesset Member and leader of the Citizens Rights Movement.

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Old year goes out like a lamb

Shares were mixed and bonds rose on the stock exchange yesterday, the last trading day in the outgoing Jewish year. The stock market traditionally sums up its activities on three different dates during the year, on Rosh Hashana, on December 31, and on March 31. This year, however, the results of any such appraisal are so disastrous that most market participants would be much happier to simply draw a line and relegate the whole year to the trash can of history.

Certainly the last 13 months (it was a leap-year, so the tortoise was dragged out longer than usual) were not one of the better years for stock traders - if one may be allowed to put things very mildly. A year that began with the massive run on the bank shares, culminating in their spectacular collapse in October last year, never really looked back. For three months, the entire exchange - bonds, bank shares and free shares - reeled under the impact of that unprecedented disaster.

The events of early 1983, hardly a picnic in themselves, paled into insignificance against the wholesale slaughter that took place between late October 1983 and late January 1984. The paper value of the stock market was reduced by something in excess of \$10 billion in that period.

There followed a sharp recovery over the next two months, in which part of the damage was repaired, but starting from the Knesset vote on early elections, in late March, the exchange began to sink into a "sleeping sickness." For months prices moved ever lower in nominal terms, after taking account of inflation, the erosion in real terms was enormous. Periodic rally attempts consistently came to nothing. The last of these, which took place in the last few weeks, seems to have petered out as the optimism about the new government that sparked it, dissipates rapidly.

Yesterday's market differed from that of most days in the last few weeks in that nothing much hap-

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By PINHAS LANDAU

pened, overall. Volume was less than on Monday, particularly in the share market, and the selling wave seemed to dry up.

In the share market rising and falling issues were fairly evenly matched, although "sellers only" situations were rather more numerous than "buyers only." The turnover in the share market fell into its regular pattern, as 72 per cent of the ISB, that changed hands was concentrated in the "arrangement" bank sector. Here there were rises of about one per cent, on a sectoral basis, a reaction to the recent weakness which was itself a reflection of the slowdown in the rate of devaluation. Even this slowdown was linked to another factor, namely the sudden weakness of the dollar in the overseas currency markets.

When the dollar recovered yesterday in Europe, the shekel slipped back into its downward groove, and the bank share train lurched forward again, to maintain some connection between the dollar and the quasi-bonds to which they are linked. Nevertheless, the yield on most of the bank shares has dropped back to the 18-19 per cent level.

"Free" shares were, as noted, mixed, with the trading split between those selling before the long holiday, putting their money on interest-bearing deposits and moving to the sidelines, and those brave souls prepared to take positions before the holiday in the hope that the ongoing inter-departmental talks will give rise to a cut in the government's own spending.

The future of the market, if it is to have one, is umbilically linked to the emergence of an economic package that actually does all the things that have been spoken about ad infinitum. In essence, these are the

MARKET STATISTICS

Indices
General Share Index 374.53 +0.75%
Non-bank Index 275.61 +0.20%
Arrangement Bank Index 443.16 +0.98%
Industrial Index 315.41 +1.01%
Bond Index 322.47 +0.98%

Turnovers
Shares 151,004.6m.
Bonds 151,599.9m.
Totals 302,604.5m.
Advances 143
Declines 173
of which 5% +
of which 3% -
"Buyers only" 56
"Sellers only" 20

Bond market trends
4% fully-linked: Stable/Rises to 3%
3% fully-linked: Stable/Rises to 3%
80% linked: Rises to 3%
Double-option: Stable/Rises to 3%
Dollar-linked: Falls to 3%

Most Active Shares
IDB 14140 IS174.8m. -140
Hapoalim 9585 IS159.1m. +130
Leumi 6105 IS138.9m. +90

Sharpest Moves
Cyclone 1 -7 -87.5%
T.G.L. op. 1 -24.5 -96.1%
I.C.P. op. 77.5 +24 +44.9%
Galil Textile op. 56 -37 -39.8%

reduction of the governmental preponderance in the economy, and particularly in the capital market, the redistribution of labour from services to industries, and the elimination of the distortions and uncertainty caused by hyper-inflation.

This last point must, of course, be attained by eliminating inflation itself. As far as the stock market is concerned, almost any price is worth paying for the achievement of these goals.

The bond market is also unable to function under the current economic conditions, and the exchange as a whole is, in the final analysis, simply marking time until the economy regains more solid ground. When that happens, the stock exchange will quickly move from the peripheral position it currently holds in the national economic consciousness, and regain centre stage.

Commercial Banks

(not part of "arrangement")
OHK 3700 +100 +2.8
Maritime 2335 -100 -4.1
N. American 2049 19 n.c.
N. American 1585 40 n.c.
N. Amer. op. 2872 24 n.c.
Danat 421 91 -49 -10.4
Danat sec. 234 196 +12 +5.4
First Int'l 501 1144 +20 +4.2
FIBU 376 905 +18 +5.0

Commercial Banks (part of "arrangement")

IDB 14140 1236 -140 -1.0
IDB B 14700 36 -1000 -6.4
IDB P A 88900 10 n.c.
Leumi 6105 1042 14 +260 +1.4
Leumi B 17795 675 n.c.
Leumi C 2100 21 n.c.
Leumi D 3755 1033 n.c.
Leumi E 5930 24 +220 +3.9
Leumi F 2660 61 -20 -3.8

Hapoalim 14400 1 -1600 -10.0
Hapoalim B 9585 1659 +190 +2.0
Hapoalim C 9600 1042 +260 +1.4
Hapoalim D 24001 6 +201 +1.2
Hapoalim E 60500 1 +4500 +8.0
Hapoalim F 24120 4 n.c.
Hapoalim G 18750 3 +1050 +5.9
Hapoalim H 1230 351 -60 -4.7
Hapoalim I 6105 2275 +90 +1.5
Leumi C 9 8380 8 n.c.
Leumi D 11 2400 184 +85 +3.7
Leumi E 8589 3 -1
Leumi F 4600 10 +101 +2.2

Mortgage Banks

Gen. Mortgage 1260 97 -5 -4
Gen. Mortgage 1265 10 n.c.
Carmel 1270 10 n.c.
Carmel deb. 488 10 -95 -10.0
Biran 857 10 -25 -2.9
Dev. Mortgage 475 15 +25 +5.6
Dev. Mortgage 1420 10 -20 -1.4
Mishkan 722 s.o.1 -38 -5.0
Independence 1500 12 -120 -7.4
Tefahot 1335 34 -5 -1.5
Tefahot 1280 -140 -3.0
Tefahot deb. 130 342 n.c.
Tefahot 2 250 488 -11 -4.2
Tefahot 170 26 -1 -0.4
Tefahot 155 50 -1 -0.2
Tefahot 104 56 +8 +8.3
Tefahot 571 204 -94 -14.1

Financial Institutions

Shilim 118 757 n.c.
Shilim op. 1626 2 +1500 +10.0
Agriculture A 34960 10 -100 -3.3
Agriculture C 1070 109 -19 -1.7
Leumi Ind 1089 1 n.c.
Leumi Ind 2 25105 8 n.c.
Leumi Ind 3 85800 -1 +7800 +10.0
Leumi Ind 4 51000 1 n.c.
Leumi Ind 5 51000 1 n.c.
Leumi Ind 6 42335 1 n.c.
Leumi Ind 7 13800 1 n.c.
Leumi Ind 8 711 332 -79 -10.0
Leumi Ind 9 379 86 n.c.
Leumi Ind 10 210 162 -7 -3.2
Leumi Ind 11 2677 10 +5 +2.2

Insurance

Aryeh 610 117 +31 +5.4
Aryeh op. 301 117 n.c.
Aryeh sub deb. 7057 1 n.c.
Aryeh 1 748 33 -40 -5.1
Aryeh 2 800 331 -20 -2.5
Reinsur 0.1 25105 8 n.c.
Reinsur 0.2 214 108 -5 -2.3
Hader 1 369 4 n.c.
Hader 2 120 79 -5 -3.2
Hader 3 1827 865 +166 +17.0
Hader 4 25105 8 n.c.
Phoenix 0.1 616 1 n.c.
Phoenix 0.2 1701 15 n.c.
Haimsham 1 1251 1 n.c.
Haimsham 2 1722 1 n.c.
Haimsham 3 169 44 -9 -5.1
Yardenia 0.1 122 s.o.1 -9 -6.9
Yardenia 0.2 4110 8 -80 -1.9
Memorah 5 895 36 n.c.
Sahar 589 301 +28 +5.0
Sahar 640 205 n.c.
Zur 629 s.o.1 -44 -5.0
Zur Hold. 1 241 61 -17 -6.6

Trade & Services

Inter-Gamma 1 545 17 +25 +4.8
Inter-Gamma 2 195 300 +7 +3.7
Inter-Gamma 3 70 238 +6 +9.4
Meir Ezra 724 22 -25 -3.5
Meir Ezra op. 205 s.o.1 -11 -5.1
Teta 1 190 s.o.1 -10 -5.0
Teta op. 292 74 +5 +1.7
Chal Trade 12800 1 n.c.
Crystal 1 238 s.o.1 -13 -4.8
Rasap 0.1 940 106 +81 +9.4
Rasap 0.2 2010 23 n.c.
Rasap 0.3 910 129 n.c.

Food and Tobacco

Atlas 531 n.c.
Atlas 25 +26 +6.4
Atlantic 1 n.c.
Atlantic 2 n.c.
Atlantic 3 n.c.
Atlantic 4 n.c.
Atlantic 5 n.c.
Atlantic 6 n.c.
Atlantic 7 n.c.
Atlantic 8 n.c.
Atlantic 9 n.c.
Atlantic 10 n.c.

Services

Delek 2450 77 n.c.
Delek 1 2000 13 n.c.
Delek 2 1110 1 n.c.
Delek 3 2063 53 +188 +10.0
Delek 4 1000 125 -27 -3.3
Delek 5 18500 1 n.c.
Delek 6 9997 7 -700 -6.5
Delek 7 17999 4 -633 -3.4
Delek 8 952 b.o.1 +45 +5.0
Delek 9 627 2 +5 +1.0
Delek 10 343 1 +20 +6.2

Hotels, Tourism

Galei Zohar 1 5820 133 n.c.
Galei Zohar 2 1592 220 +10 +6

Textiles and Clothing

Oza 338 b.o.2 +10 +5.1
Oza 1 136 25 +16 +13.8
Baruch 1 268 - - -
Baruch 2 462 - - -
Baruch 3 120 s.o.1 -5 -4.6
Alaska Sport 1 71 s.o.1 -3 -2.2
Etan 1 125 45 +11 +10.1
Etan 2 80 10 +5 +6.3
Argam 1 929 - - -
Argam 2 86 460 -7 -9.9
Argam 3 80 s.o.1 -4 -4.7
Argam 4 24 s.o.1 -7 -2.3
Dela Galil 1 500 746 -8 -1.6
Dela Galil 2 340 130 n.c.
United Spinner 1 140 20 -4 -2.8
United Spinner 2 38 50 -1 -2.6
Vitalgo 1 170 50 n.c.
Vitalgo 2 115 100 n.c.
Vitalgo 3 274 41 +13 +5.0
Vitalgo 4 129 34 -14 -9.8
Zikar 1 150 90 n.c.
Zikar 2 69 105 -6 -8.6

Computers

Data 300 57 -7 -2.3
Blum 1 520 39 +20 +4.2
Blum 2 1970 1 n.c.
Blum 3 439 44 -3 -0.7
Blum 4 306 22 -12 -3.8
Blum 5 392 10 +2 +3.1
Blum 6 310 - - -
Blum 7 1370 19 n.c.
Blum 8 310 - - -
Blum 9 260 3 -20 -7.1
Blum 10 424 56 -7 -1.6
Blum 11 284 20 n.c.
Blum 12 1201 10 -3 -0.2
Blum 13 951 25 +26 +2.8

Real Estate, Building

Gindi 1 895 150 n.c.
Gindi 2 622 160 n.c.
Gindi 3 210 775 +3 +1.5
Gindi 4 82 2084 +4 +5.1
Gindi 5 325 226 -5 -1.5
Gindi 6 22 204 +10 +4.7
Gindi 7 80 597 n.c.
Gindi 8 55 200 -8 -12.7
Gindi 9 197 130 n.c.
Gindi 10 148 61 n.c.
Gindi 11 142 - - -
Gindi 12 75 90 -14 -15.7
Gindi 13 2079 11 -11 -0.5
Gindi 14 1074 54 n.c.
Gindi 15 68 - - -
Gindi 16 963 3 +35 +3.8
Gindi 17 406 21 +6 +1.5

Metals and Metal Products

Ozgon 3600 4 n.c.
Ozgon 1 1881 10 -20 -1.1
Ozgon 2 1650 15 -10 -0.6
Ozgon 3 215 27 -3 -1.4
Ozgon 4 440 95 -20 -4.4
Ozgon 5 368 75 +10 +2.8
Ozgon 6 60 100 -2 -3.2
Ozgon 7 183 - - -
Ozgon 8 107 - - -
Ozgon 9 810 3 -49 -5.7
Ozgon 10 133 199 n.c.
Ozgon 11 178 369 +16 +9.9
Ozgon 12 78 380 +7 +1.8
Ozgon 13 180 90 n.c.

Electrical Machinery

Electra 1 133800 3 +2800 +2.1
Electra 2 21610 7 -7000 -3.1
Electra 3 700 67 -70 -9.1
Electra 4 295 675 -28 -7.7
Electra 5 270 59 -164 -14.8
Electra 6 970 12 n.c.
Electra 7 695 6 n.c.
Electra 8 136200 7 +4000 +3.0
Electra 9 300 12 +1 +0.3
Electra 10 360 25 -10 -2.8
Electra 11 2430 305 n.c.
Electra 12 2500 45 +158 +6.8
Electra 13 1401 44 n.c.
Electra 14 4312 4 +12 +3
Electra 15 152 300 -10 -6.2
Electra 16 570 38 -19 -3.2
Electra 17 320 422 n.c.
Electra 18 2890 17 -87.5
Electra 19 317 -14 -10.1
Electra 20 1170 115 +99 +8.6
Electra 21 526 n.c.
Electra 22 646 66 n.c.
Electra 23 506 139 n.c.

Building Materials

Alp Industries 244 25 +10 +4.3
Alp 298 - - -
Alp 300 43 -20 -3.1
Alp 320 10 +17 +4.1
Alp 340 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 360 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 380 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 400 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 420 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 440 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 460 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 480 115 -56 -18.3
Alp 500 115 -56 -18.3

Chemicals, Rubber, Plastics

Agan Chem. 1790 33 -25 -1.4
Agan Chem. 1449 10 +69 +5.0
Agan Chem. 20 241 -9 -3.1
Agan Chem. 1860 8 +100 +5.7
Agan Chem. 385 201 n.c.
Agan Chem. 1 n.c.
Agan Chem. 2 217 126 -11 -4.8
Agan Chem. 3 1251 203 -139 -10.0
Agan Chem. 4 104 1061 n.c.

New Listings

Adia Textiles 648 4 n.c.
Adia 130 18 n.c.
Adia 2 310 17 +10 +3.1
Adia 3 737 3 -2 -0.3
Adia 4 50 365 n.c.

Wood, Paper, Printing

Dalton 1 444 18 +16 +3.6
Dalton 2 248 340 n.c.
Dalton 3 152 1199 n.c.
Dalton 4 450 20 n.c.
Dalton 5 370 8 n.c.
Dalton 6 329 3 n.c.
Dalton 7 58 30 n.c.
Dalton 8 1601 4 n.c.
Dalton 9 21200 4 n.c.
Dalton 10 270 30 n.c.
Dalton 11 1230 40 n.c.
Dalton 12 665 6 n.c.
Dalton 13 1020 23 n.c.

Miscellaneous Industries

Alumina 1230 1 n.c.
Alumina 2 600 15 +10 +1.7
Alumina 3 1849 28 +12 +0.6
Alumina 4 1800 50 +10 +0.6
Alumina 5 648 6 n.c.
Alumina 6 1765 n.c.
Alumina 7 1598 17 +115 +7.2
Alumina 8 370 170 -5 -1.3

Industrial Investment

Alumina 1230 1 n.c.
Alumina 2 600 15 +10 +1.7
Alumina 3 1849 28 +12 +0.6
Alumina 4 1800 50 +10 +0.6
Alumina 5 648 6 n.c.
Alumina 6 1765 n.c.
Alumina 7 1598 17 +115 +7.2
Alumina 8 370 170 -5 -1.3

Investment Companies

Union 1 351 81 n.c.
Union 2 1404 424 n.c.
Union 3 22 50 +10 +4.5
Union 4 101 78 n.c.
Union 5 628 38 n.c.
Union 6 536 20 n.c.
Union 7 20 140 -24 -2.0
Union 8 800 48 n.c.
Union 9 5350 -100 -1.8
Union 10 11000 1 n.c.
Union 11 700 6 n.c.
Union 12 660 30 -10 -1.5
Union 13 330 212 -32 -9.7
Union 14 5300 8 -150 -2.8
Union 15 1807 25 n.c.
Union 16 2640 4 +130 +4.9
Union 17 1570 11 +11 +0.7
Union 18 1184 41 -2 -0.2
Union 19 2490 363 -1 -0.0

Research & Development

Cover Devices 190 180 n.c.
Cover Devices 2 180 180 n.c.
Cover Devices 3 191 218 -10 -5.0
Cover Devices 4 56 7270 -37 -5.1

Oil Exploration

Delek Exp. 1 837 1 n.c.
Delek Exp. 2 450 49 -10 -2.2
Delek Exp. 3 1500 58 +44 +2.9
Delek Exp. 4 350 50 +26 +6.6
Delek Exp. 5 130 18 -1 -0.8
Delek Exp. 6 98 714 +12 +1.5
Delek Exp. 7 318 222 n.c.
Delek Exp. 8 230 110 n.c.
Delek Exp. 9 325 74 n.c.
Delek Exp. 10 157 50 n.c.
Delek Exp. 11 65 140 -30 -3.4
Delek Exp. 12 270 100 -20 -7.4
Delek Exp. 13 127 10 +10 +8.0
Delek Exp. 14 109 188 +10 +5.3
Delek Exp. 15 320 25 +15 +4.7
Delek Exp. 16 230 51 +21 +9.6
Delek Exp. 17 75 116 n.c.
Delek Exp. 18 51 2 -1 -0.2
Delek Exp. 19 80000 +3000 +3.8

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Gold Fix 305.00 -1.00
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Gold Fix 275.00 -1.00
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Amal Paper 47 n.c.
Amal Paper 46 n.c.
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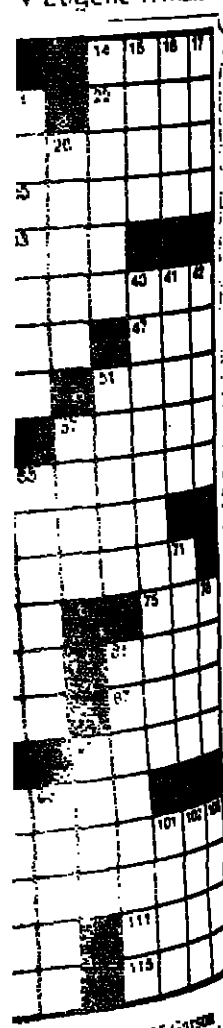
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WORD PUZZLE

FRIDAY

by Eugene T. Moles



95 Gerson
96 Randa
97 Cohen
98 Year
99 Colman
100 Rabin
101 Pines
102 Archibald
103 Almon
104 Vay
105 Pres. of
106 Swiss

VER TO PREVIOUS

Bank of Israel exchange rates

September 25, 1984	IS		IS
U.S. dollar	401.40	Australian dollar	333.16
British sterling	497.66	South African rand	239.05
German mark	131.30	Belgian franc (10)	64.904
French franc	42.770	Austrian schilling (10)	186.94
Dutch guilder	116.39	Italian lire (1000)	211.43
Swiss franc	159.38	Japanese yen (100)	163.30
Swedish krona	46.338	Irish pound	40.72
Norwegian krone	45.497	Spanish peseta (100)	235.08
Danish krone	36.236	Jordanian dinar	999.49
Finnish mark	63.312	Lebanese lira	57.340
Canadian dollar	304.89	Egyptian pound	325.13

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THE JERUSALEM POST

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Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON, who was Editor until 1955; Editor 1955-1974
TED LURIE, Editor 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, EDITORIAL OFFICES AND
ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Knesset, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81
(91000) Telephone 528181, Telex 26121, TEL AVIV 11 Rehov Castelsch, P.O. Box 20226
(61201) Telephone 294222, HAIFA 16 Rehov Nordau, Hadar Haemmet, P.O. Box 4810
(31047) Telephone 645444. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The
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Ill-timed move

TWO YEARS after he first advanced his new Middle East peace plan, U.S. President Ronald Reagan this week reiterated his commitment to it. "That initiative remains a realistic and workable approach, and I am committed to it as firmly as on the day I announced it," the American President told the UN General Assembly on Monday.

Strong words, indeed, but unfortunately not backed up by facts on the ground. True, Mr. Reagan's statement this time is likely to get a considerably more sympathetic hearing from the present national unity government than the angry rejection two years ago by then prime minister Menachem Begin. But, formally, at least, the government decision of two years ago, totally rejecting the Reagan plan, still stands as long as it has not been superseded by a new resolution.

And here is the rub. Just as Washington failed to consult, or, at least, advise Israel beforehand two years ago, this time again President Reagan chose to spring a surprise and to revive his moribund initiative without any real preparations on the ground. If anything, it was an ill-timed move because it is likely to plunge Israel's fledgling unity government into a premature and, at this stage at least, unnecessary conflict over an option which does not really exist.

For, once more, the main partner who is supposed to make the Reagan plan a viable option — King Hussein of Jordan — has so far not given any indication that he is in any way inclined to take the plunge and join the peace process. True, last night Jordan announced that it was resuming diplomatic relations with Egypt — the first Arab state to do so following the severing of ties nearly six years ago in the wake of the Camp David accords — but there is still a long way to go before one can expect King Hussein to negotiate peace with Israel on behalf of the Palestinians.

The embarrassment caused to Israel's new government by Mr. Reagan's surprise statement was compounded by the fact that he chose to announce it at a forum largely hostile to Israel — the UN General Assembly. Moreover, at a time when even Israel — friendly statesmen, such as French President Francois Mitterrand, are toying with the idea of reviving some UN-sponsored Middle East peace initiatives, the U.S. President's statement before the UN Assembly could easily be misinterpreted as inviting some sort of UN involvement. That is certainly the last thing both Washington and Jerusalem would want to see happen, for it would be designed to bring back the Soviet Union into the negotiating process, thus undoing over ten years of American-dominated Middle East mediating efforts.

If President Reagan meant to create the impression of imaginative foreign policy successes, six weeks before the American presidential elections, then his statement ought to be understood in that context. But if Washington really meant to revive an effective peace initiative, President Reagan would have been far better advised to have held his fire until his meeting in six weeks with Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Such restraint would have prevented the first dissonance on a major policy issue within Israel's new government. Mr. Reagan's ill-timed statement in fact compelled the new cabinet secretary Yossi Beilin to state that, indeed, the government is on record, so far, as having rejected the Reagan plan, until another resolution is adopted. That was also the line taken yesterday in New York by Mr. Shamir, after his advisers first reiterated the total rejection line.

Anybody who is really interested in helping even a national unity government to adopt a more moderate and reasonable stand on Israel's major national debate, should have been far more careful in approaching this most delicate subject. Washington should have known better.

NEW LEVIES

(Continued from Page One)

impose the tax. According to observers it is possible that the idea will be abandoned.

Moda'i is to meet today with Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar together with Peres, at the request of the Histadrut. It is expected that the surtax will be discussed, it having become clear to Kessar that the surtax, contrary to what he first thought, was not the only element of a possible package deal with the government and the employers.

The cut in the budget was given in annual terms, but since part of the fiscal year has already elapsed, the effective cut in this year's budget will be of some \$500m., including some \$270m. slashed from subsidies. Taxes which the cabinet has decided on this week are expected to bring in some \$590m.

According to the Treasury some \$41m. will be cut from the Education Ministry budget this year, while the annual figure will come to \$104m.

The total savings from all the ministries' purchases of goods and services will come to some \$204m. Their labour force is to be reduced by 4,600 workers.

Greer Fay Cashman adds:

As of last night, there is no more free education in Israel. The government decided to impose a \$4,000 education levy on every family with one or more children in any level of the education system from kindergarten to the end of high school. This will involve about 350,000 families.

Some 70,000 families living on or below the poverty line will be exempted from the levy.

The rest of the public will also take on an additional burden to pay for the increase of income deductions for National Insurance, which will be transferred to the coffers of the Education Ministry.

The special ministerial committee that sat for more than six hours last night was unable to cut the Education Ministry budget by even half of what was demanded by the Treasury, the Education Ministry spokesman said. By 11 p.m. last night, the budget has been trimmed by \$28m. of the \$100m. stipulated by the Treasury, he said.

A highly placed government official said that he doubted that the cuts would go any deeper "because there just isn't anywhere else to cut from."

KEEP THE faith — that is the New Year's wish to the nation and its leaders. As the years go by, defining that faith seems to be even more difficult than keeping it. In political terms, even the attempt has become something of a losing game.

The national unity government is a try at putting other things first — at least if faith is defined in terms of political ideology. This has never been claimed to be one of our national talents. In the formative period after World War I, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis, then the acknowledged leader of American Zionism, bowed out of an active role in the movement because his emphasis on problem-solving, rather than ideological frameworks, was incompatible with the approach of even the pragmatist Weizmann.

Today problem-solving has almost become a magic word. It is not true, as has been claimed in some quarters, that the election results expressed a popular demand for national unity. Far from it — they underlined the division in the society. Nevertheless, there is a current in the popular mood, which has gained strength over the last decade, that rejects politics as such, and is common in both camps. As significant as any cleavage between doves and hawks Ashkenazim and Oriental, secular and religious, there is a cleavage that cuts another way — the cleavage between the leaders and the led.

This is the cleavage that poses the greatest threat to Israeli democracy. In one extreme form, it expresses itself in a yearning for an all-powerful leader, in another, for the simple solution. In the politics of paranoia, the two merge in one or

A matter of faith

By ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

another of the authoritarian styles offered to the consumer in today's political marketplace.

The national unity government arose out of the arithmetic of coalition-formation, not out of national consensus. It can mean stalemate, a government that lacks the ability to do one thing simultaneously, to borrow singer Danny Sanderson's phrase. It can mean each minister doing his own thing. But it can also mean that problem-solving has finally found political expression, if only for limited ends and for a limited time.

IN ANY CASE, whether the current attempt at national unity succeeds or not, the question of the ability of the government — the present one or any likely to succeed it — to govern has come to the fore and is unlikely to recede in the near future, under any conceivable circumstances. This in itself is likely to become an ideological issue, displacing the questions of national self-definition, geographical and cultural, that have until now dominated the political arena.

Political leaders, like other entrepreneurs, determine present decisions on the basis of their expectations with regard to the future. In the negotiations and side-deals that preceded the formation of the present government, the dominant expectation clearly was that the organization of government after the attempt at national unity, whether or not successful, would not be fundamentally changed. National unity is still generally conceived as an intermezzo.

But if the intermezzo means a return to the past, at some future date, which cannot be more than four years away and may be much sooner, then decisions during the national unity interlude are likely to be shaped within the limitations of future coalition politics. The political system of Israel, more than being a prisoner of the past, then becomes a prisoner of the future.

The two major political blocs should exploit their present near-monopoly of power to change the rules of the game. If there is one interest that should unite them, it rests in the very fact of the biggest. If there is one issue on which they can find unity, it should be in creating

the machinery for a government that can govern.

A national unity government means a sharing of power. One unanticipated consequence appears to be a weakening of the strength of party leadership. Without the prospect of unambiguous control of the machinery of government for either major party, the leverage in the hands of the leadership of both is likely to be seriously compromised. Yitzhak Shamir, in many ways, seems to have less resources at his disposal in the present intra-mural power struggle in Herut than he would have as unambiguous leader of a party in opposition, with a reasonable chance to be propelled to power at the next role of the dice.

IT REMAINS to be seen whether Shimon Peres can exercise effective control in his own camp, when the time comes to demand sacrifices from the Histadrut leadership. In previous Labour-dominated governments, the chronic disputes between the Treasury and the Histadrut were bargained out in a party forum. When the fight is in the framework of party control of government, with a Liberal as treasury minister, what does Peres have to bargain with?

The organizational resources at the disposal of leadership in a system of shared powers are diminished. So are the psychological resources. The image of prime minister as head of government becomes ambiguous. He speaks for the nation as a whole in a sense limited by the boundaries of his authority.

In short, the cleavage between the leaders and the led that exists in the general public may be transferred internally into both major parties.

Thus, the problem of leadership comes to the fore as itself an ideological issue, related to the larger question of the ability to govern.

What happens meanwhile to the traditional ideological issues that are presumed to lie at the heart of the present party cleavage? The problems they present are unlikely to be solved, although the issues will be redefined and rephrased. Even today, the question is no longer where a line should be drawn on the map of mandatory Palestine. Both annexation and foreign sovereignty are ruled out in the present coalition agreement, which describes a political reality more than a deal between Labour and Likud.

The agreement does not address the problem of the distribution of power in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza district, which that reality presents. If there has been a functional compromise in the government of Israel, under the present coalition arrangement, none has yet been forthcoming for the occupied areas. Ideological orientation with regard to the direction of future arrangements, however, will strongly colour day-to-day administrative action.

Brandeis began his career in Jewish life in America as mediator in disputes in the Jewish-dominated garment industry. "What struck me most," he once wrote, "was that each side had a great capacity for placing themselves in the other fellow's shoes. Each side was willing to admit the reality of the other fellow's predicament." This genuine value lies at the heart of problem-solving. Brandeis considered it peculiarly Jewish. With the absence of a developed ideology, it will do. It is the faith we must keep.

The writer is a political scientist.

The year that almost wasn't

By N.D. GROSS

but doesn't, mean "destruction."

This was the year in which the world was to be destroyed, they gloomed. It coincided in part with the civil year 1984, predicted by some North Sea profiteer, George Orwell, I think, as the year of Big Sister bewitching you.

Of course the letters could be rearranged with little inconvenience

to avert the evil eye, and the harsh decree (it's easier than prayer, charity and repentance). Tashmad is one variant, which pays tribute to the part Jewish, sleight-of-date seer Nostradamus who is unreliably reported to have foreseen great and terrible things for this very year.

But then so was that old dreamer Ezekiel, with his bicycle wheels, catherine wheels, wheels within wheels, four-faced robots and food for 20 shekels a day. Where there's a will there are relations, they say, and where there are wheels there's inflation.

A further variant is Shdemot, fields, which Habakkuk warns would not yield food, even 20 shekels' worth.

Another pronunciation of this latter form is the Anglo-Saxon Teutonic Sidmouth, which is a pebbly seaside resort in glorious Devon. Permit me a digression to note that the first Viscount Sidmouth nobly resigned his cabinet seat in 1824 —

and he didn't then even have a portfolio to be tired of — in protest against his government's ceding independence to Buenos Aires. This authoritarian old diehard knew something his successors didn't 158 years later. He warned them.

Dismal and dire were the catastrophes the stars and oracles and, Mabab warned us of only a year ago. We would break between their millstones and if — they inserted an escape clause as is the way with prophets — the world did not in fact come to an end, then we would wish it would, we would.

They said inflation would reach an annual rate of 400 per cent.

They said we wouldn't be out of Lebanon within the year.

They said our sportsmen didn't stand a chance of winning any Olympic medals.

They said the Neveh Ativ ski lift would go broke.

Nu? What became of these black predictions, these sooty sooths? What indeed. How could any single one of them have been survived?

Indeed, to confound the cassandras, there were some good things in the past year. We had summer time (for some of the time). Introduced in Germany in 1915 and, a year later, in Britain where it was known as Willett Time after its first public advocate, it is known in Israel as Burgtime, not in honour of its chief adversary, the interior minister of the eon, but from the old German expression *Beim stellen der Uhr wie es beim Reichsminister Gunst findet*.

The introduction of Burgtime has given a new verb to the language: a new language: to yosel, meaning to shift the hands of a timepiece one hour forward for a very brief period.

There were several other positive aspects to the year. There was, for example, And then we had. And of course we all remember the great. Oh you don't need me to recall all those wonderful days and months that contributed to making the best year of our life. (By the way, does anyone know what happened to Yehoram Meshel?)

If you insist, here are just a few of the superb incidents that highlighted this year of years:

Mifal Hapayis did not go out on strike.

None of our long-range missiles landed in the backyard of the Kremlin.

Neither Penina Rosenbloom nor Shulamit Aloni became born-again orthodox.

Yehoram Gaon did not join Benzene.

Betar Yerushalayim didn't sit Malmilian to Zamalet.

Well, very soon the year of dread they warned us of will be over. We got a flucky, as Mrs. Goldberg said the doctor told her. Tashmad is high gone. We can all breathe a collective sigh of relief: Tashmaaaaaah, as my colleague Meir Merhav observed, is on the threshold. Nothing cataclysmic can possibly happen in the next few hours.

The writer is a member of the editorial staff of The Jerusalem Post.

READERS' LETTERS

WHO IS A POLICEMAN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Rabbi Naftali Lewin's letter of September 24, on the "Who is a Jew" issue is most revealing. He compares the definition of "Who is a Jew" to deciding who is a policeman. "Do you and I decide who is a policeman?" he asks rhetorically and answers, "No, the police force does."

Two comments: The comparison of the rabbinate to the police force in

defining its members is interesting and perhaps indicative of a certain prevalent mentality. Secondly, I would suggest that what separates a democracy from a police state includes the right of the people to define who is a policeman, and not the police force as a power unto itself.

DAVID CLAYMAN,
Israel Director,
American Jewish Congress
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